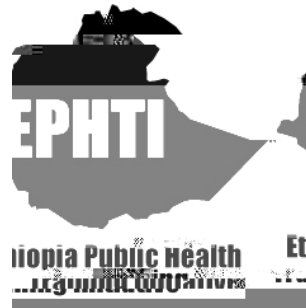


# LECTURE NOTES

For Health Science Students

# *General Pathology*



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# LETTER TO THE STUDENT

*Dear Student,*

Welcome to the exciting & fascinating world of pathology! Up to now in your studies, you have been learning the normal features of human beings (i.e. anatomy, physiology, etc...). Now it is time to introduce you to the abnormalities that can occur in humans – i.e. to diseases. Pathology is a scientific study of diseases. In this book, you will learn the basic mechanisms of diseases. Pathology is divided into general & systemic pathology for pedagogical reasons. General pathology covers the basic mechanisms of diseases whereas systemic pathology covers diseases as they occur in each organ system. This book covers only general pathology. And it is divided into ten chapters on - Introduction, Cell injury, Inflammation, Healing, Hemodynamic disorders, Genetic diseases, Immunopathology, Neoplasia, Metabolic diseases, & Selected infectious diseases. Most of these topics represent the major categories of diseases that can occur in different organ systems. For example, acute inflammation can occur in different organs but wherever it occurs its mechanism is the same. That is, an acute inflammation in the skin has the same mechanisms & features as an acute inflammation of the meninges. The same principle applies to the other topics covered in general pathology. Therefore, if one knows general pathology well, one can apply this knowledge to diseases in the various organ systems. Hence, your general pathology knowledge will facilitate your understanding of systemic diseases (Systemic Pathology). Therefore, the whole purpose of general pathology is to help you understand systemic diseases – i.e. Systemic Pathology. So, even though, you will understand the basic mechanisms of diseases common to various types of illnesses, it doesn't mean that this book has covers all of pathology in as much as it didn't cover systemic pathology. Therefore, after reading this book, you are encouraged to read books on systemic pathology. The reason for not including systemic pathology in this book was because the book conceived when the previous curriculum was being implemented. At this juncture, we would like to call up on all professional colleagues to include systemic pathology in the pathology lecture for Health Officer students since this is very basic for understanding clinical medicine. We would also like to mention that the new curriculum for Health Officer students includes systemic pathology. We also call up on all those concerned to write a book on systemic pathology for heal

The main reason for writing this book is the absence of standardized uniformity in the pathology courses given to health science students. Health science students\* here means health officer, pharmacy, dentistry, midwifery, anesthesiology, nursing (B.SC.), & physiotherapy students. There was no uniformity in what was taught to these students in the various institutions in Ethiopia. We hope this book will alleviate this problem regarding general pathology.

In writing this book, we have tried to make it as clear & as brief as possible. Since too much brevity may compromise understanding, we have been a bit “liberal” in some areas in including some details which are necessary for the student’s understanding. This is done to encourage understanding rather than memorization.

This book is intended to be a textbook of general pathology for health science students. However, medical students & even those beyond can use this book for review.

Abiye Tesfaye, MD, Editor

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Proper training of health care workers is the starting point for improving the health status of a nation. Having good standardized textbooks contributes a lot to the proper training of



## CONTRIBUTORS

Dr. Abiye Tesfaye – Overall Editor & the Chapter on Genetic Diseases



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# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION TO PATHOLOGY

### I. Learning Objectives

Upon completing this chapter students should be able to:

1. Define pathology



## 2. Pathogenesis

Pathogenesis means the mechanism through which the cause operates to produce the pathological and clinical manifestations. The pathogenetic mechanisms could take place in the latent or incubation period. Pathogenesis leads to morphologic changes.

## 3. Morphologic changes

The morphologic changes refer to the structural alterations in cells or tissues that occur following the pathogenetic mechanisms. The structural changes in the organ can be seen with the naked eye or they may only be seen under the microscope. Those changes that can be seen with the naked eye are called gross morphologic changes & those that are seen under the microscope are called microscopic changes. Both the gross & the microscopic morphologic changes may only be seen in that disease, i.e. they may be specific to that disease. Therefore, such morphologic changes can be used by the pathologist to identify (i.e. to diagnose) the disease. In addition, the morphologic changes will lead to functional alteration & to the clinical signs & symptoms of the disease.

## 4. Functional derangements and clinical significance

The morphologic changes in the organ influence the normal function of the organ. By doing so, they determine the clinical features (symptoms and signs), course, and prognosis of the disease.

In summary, pathology studies:-

Etiology è Pathogenesis è Morphologic changes è Clinical features & Prognosis of all diseases.

Understanding of the above core aspects of disease (i.e. understanding pathology) will help one to understand how the clinical features of different diseases occur & how their treatments work. This understanding will, in turn, enable health care workers to handle & help their patients in a better & scientific way. It is for these reasons that the health science

### III. Diagnostic techniques used in pathology

The pathologist uses the following techniques to the diagnose diseases:

- a. Histopathology
- b. Cytopathology
- c. Hematopathology
- d. Immunohistochemistry



Then the tissue is processed to make it ready for microscopic examination. The whole



## **Advantages of cytologic examination**

Compared to histopathologic technique it is cheap, takes less time and needs no anesthesia to take specimens. Therefore, it is appropriate for developing countries with limited resources like Ethiopia. In addition, it is complementary to histopathological examination.

## **Cytopathologic methods**

There are different cytopathologic methods including:

### **1. Fine-needle aspiration cytology (FNAC)**

In FNAC, cells are obtained by aspirating the diseased organ using a very thin needle under negative pressure. Virtually any organ or tissue can be sampled by fine-needle aspiration. The aspirated cells are then stained & are studied under the microscope. Superficial organs (e.g. thyroid, breast, lymph nodes, skin and soft tissues) can be easily aspirated. Deep organs, such as the lung, mediastinum, liver, pancreas, kidney, adrenal gland, and retroperitoneum are aspirated with guidance by fluoroscopy, ultrasound or CT scan. FNAC is cheap, fast, & accurate in diagnosing many diseases.

### **2. Exfoliative cytology**

Refers to the examination of cells that are shed spontaneously into body fluids or secretions. Examples include sputum, cerebrospinal fluid, urine, effusions in body cavities (pleura, pericardium, peritoneum), nipple

### **C. Hematological examination**

This is a method by which abnormalities of the cells of the blood and their precursors in the bone marrow are investigated to diagnose the different kinds of anemia & leukemia.

### **D. Immunohistochemistry**

This is a method is used to detect a specific antigen in the tissue in order to identify the type of disease.

### **E. Microbiological examination**

This is a method by which body fluids, excised tissue, etc. are examined by microscopical, cultural and serological techniques to identify micro-organisms responsible for many diseases.

### **F. Biochemical examination**

This is a method by which the metabolic disturbances of disease are investigated by assay of various normal and abnormal compounds in the blood, urine, etc.

### **G. Clinical genetics (cytogenetics),**

This is a method in which inherited chromosomal abnormalities in the germ cells or acquired chromosomal abnormalities in somatic cells are investigated using the techniques of molecular biology.

### **H. Molecular techniques**

Different molecular techniques such as fluorescent in situ hybridization, Southern blot, etc... can be used to detect genetic diseases.

### **I. Autopsy**

Autopsy is examination of the dead body to identify the cause of death. This can be for forensic or clinical purposes.

The relative importance of each of the above disciplines to our understanding of disease varies for different types of diseases. For example, in diabetes mellitus, biochemical investigation provides the best means of diagnosis and is of greatest value in the control of the disease. Whereas in the diagnosis of tumors, FNAC & histopathology contribute much. However, for most diseases, diagnosis is based on a combination of pathological investigations.

## IV. The causes of disease

Diseases can be caused by either environmental factors, genetic factors or a combination of the two.

### A. Environmental factors

Environmental causes of disease are many and are classified into:

1. Physical agents
2. Chemicals
3. Nutritional deficiencies & excesses
4. Infections & infestations
5. Immunological factors
6. Psychogenic factors

#### 1. Physical agents

These include trauma, radiation, extremes of temperature, and electric power. These agents apply excess physical energy, in any form, to the body.

#### 2. Chemicals

With the use of an ever-increasing number of chemical agents such as drugs, in industrial processes, and at home, chemically induced injury has become very common. Their effects vary:

- Some act in a general manner, for example cyanide is toxic to all cells.
- Others act locally at the site of application, for example strong acids and caustics.



- Another group exhibit a predilection for certain organs, for example – the effect of paracetamol and alcohol on liver. Many toxic chemicals are metabolized in liver and



### C. Autoimmunity

This is an abnormal (exaggerated) immune reaction against the self antigens of the host. Therefore, autoimmunity is a hypersensitivity reaction against the self antigens. For example, type 1 diabetes mellitus is caused by autoimmune destruction of the beta cells of the islets of Langerhans of the pancreas.

### 6. Psychogenic factors

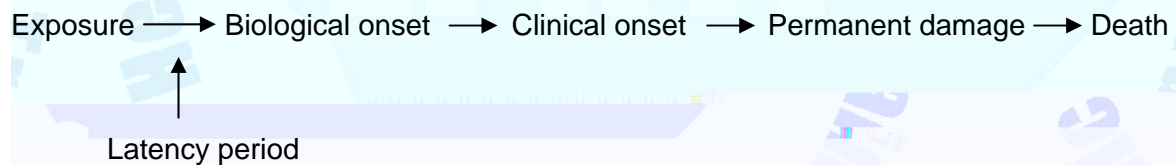
The mental stresses imposed by conditions of life, particularly in technologically advanced communities, are probably contributory factors in some groups of diseases.

### B. Genetic Factors

These are hereditary factors that are inherited genetically from parents. Detailed discussion will be done on this topic in a subsequent chapter.

## V. Course of disease

The course of disease is shown with a simplified diagram as follows.



The course of a disease in the absence of any intervention is called the natural history of the disease. The different stages in the natural history of disease include:

- a) Exposure to various risk factors (causative agents)
- b) Latency, period between exposure and biological onset of disease
- c) Biological onset of disease; this marks the initiation of the disease process, however, without any sign or symptom. Following biological onset of disease, it may remain asymptomatic or subclinical (i.e. without any clinical manifestations), or may lead to overt clinical disease.
- d) Incubation (induction) period refers to variable period of time without any obvious signs or symptoms from the time of exposure.

- e) The clinical onset of the disease, when the signs and symptoms of the disease become apparent. The expression of the disease may be variable in severity or in terms of range of manifestations.
- f) The onset of permanent damage, and
- g) Death

Natural recovery, i.e. recovery without any intervention, can occur at any stage in the progression of the disease.

## VI. Outcome and consequences of disease

Following clinical onset, disease may follow any of the following trends:

- a) Resolution can occur leaving no sequelae,
- b) The disease can settle down, but sequelae are left, or
- c) It may result in death.

## VII. Clinical & biologic death

### Clinical death

Clinical death is the reversible transition between life and biologic death. Clinical death is defined as the period of respiratory, circulatory and brain arrest during which initiation of resuscitation can lead to recovery.

Clinical death begins with either the last agonal inhalation or the last cardiac contraction.

Signs indicating clinical death are

- The patient is without pulse or blood pressure and is completely unresponsive to the most painful stimulus.
- The pupils are widely dilated
- Some reflex reactions to external stimulation are preserved. For example, during intubations, respiration may be restored in response to stimulation of the receptors of the superior laryngeal nerve, the nucleus of which is located in the medulla oblongata near the respiratory center.
- Recovery can occur with resuscitation.

## Biological Death



## VIII. Exercises

1. What is pathology? What core aspects of disease does it study?
2. Why should you study pathology?
3. What is pathogenesis?
4. What are the diagnostic modalities used by the pathologist?
5. What are the purposes of tissue fixation?
6. Describe the course of disease.

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## D. Metaplasia

Metaplasia is the replacement of one differentiated tissue by another differentiated tissue. There are different types of metaplasia. Examples include:

### 1. Squamous metaplasia

This is replacement of another type of epithelium by squamous epithelium. For example, the columnar epithelium of the bronchus can be replaced by squamous epithelium in cigarette smokers

### 2. Osseous metaplasia

This replacement of a connective tissue by bone, for example at sites of injury.

## IV. Reversible cellular changes & accumulations

Even though there are many different kinds of reversible cellular changes & accumulations, here we will only mention fatty change & accumulation of pigments.

### 1. Fatty change

This is accumulation of triglycerides inside parenchymal cells. It is caused by an imbalance between the uptake, utilization, & secretion of fat. Fatty change is usually seen in the liver, heart, or kidney. Fatty liver may be caused by alcohol, diabetes mellitus, malnutrition, obesity, & poisonings. These etiologies cause accumulation of fat in the hepatocytes by the following mechanisms:

- a. Increased uptake of triglycerides into the parenchymal cells.
- b. Decreased use of fat by cells.
- c. Overproduction of fat in cells.
- d. Decreased secretion of fat from the cells.



color) with the Prussian blue dye. Hemosiderin exists normally in small amounts within tissue macrophages of the bone marrow, liver, & spleen as physiologic iron stores. It accumulates in tissues in excess amounts in certain diseases. This excess accumulation is divided into 2 types:

1. Hemosiderosis

When accumulation of hemosiderin is primarily within tissue macrophages & is not associated with tissue damage, it is called hemosiderosis.

2. Hemochromatosis

When there is more extensive accumulation of hemosiderin, often within parenchymal cells, which leads to tissue damage, scarring & organ dysfunction, it is called hemochromatosis.

## V. Cell death

Cells can die via one of the following two ways:

1. Necrosis
2. Apoptosis

### 1. Necrosis

In necrosis, excess fluid enters the cell, swells it, & ruptures its membrane which kills it. After the cell has died, intracellular degradative reactions occur within a living organism. Necrosis does not occur in dead organisms. In dead organisms, autolysis occurs.



Release of aspartate aminotransferase (AST), creatine phosphokinase(CPK), & lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) into the blood is an important indicator of irreversible injury to heart muscle following myocardial infarction.

## **B. Free radical-induced injury**

Free radical is any molecule with a single unpaired electron in the outer orbital. Examples include superoxide & the hydroxyl radicals. Free radicals are formed by normal metabolism, oxygen toxicity, ionizing radiation, & drugs & chemicals, & reperfusion injury. They are degraded by spontaneous decay, intracellular enzymes such as glutathione peroxidase, catalase, or superoxide dismutase, & endogenous substances such as ceruloplasmin or transferrin. When the production of free radicals exceeds their degradation, the excess free radicals cause membrane pump damage, ATP depletion, & DNA damage. These can cause cell injury & cell death.

### **a. Cell membrane damage**

Direct cell membrane damage as in extremes of temperature, toxins, or viruses, or indirect cell membrane damage as in the case of hypoxia can lead to cell death by disrupting the homeostasis of the cell.

### **b. Increased intracellular calcium level**

Increased intracellular calcium level is a common pathway via which different causes of cell injury operate. For example, the cell membrane damage leads to increased intracellular calcium level. The increased cytosolic calcium, in turn, activates enzymes in the presence of low pH. The activated enzymes will degrade the cellular organelles.

## **Types of necrosis**

The types of necrosis include:

1. Coagulative necrosis
2. Liquefactive necrosis
3. Fat necrosis
4. Caseous necrosis
5. Gangrenous necrosis

## 1. Coagulative necrosis

Coagulative necrosis most often results from sudden interruption of blood supply to an organ, especially to the heart. It is, in early stages, characterized by general preservation of tissue architecture. It is marked by the following nuclear changes: Pyknosis (which is chromatin clumping & shrinking with increased basophilia), karyorrhexis (fragmentation of chromatin), & karyolysis (fading of the chromatin material).

## 2. Liquefactive necrosis

Liquefactive necrosis is characterized by digestion of tissue. It shows softening & liquefaction of tissue. It characteristically results from ischemic injury to the CNS. It also occurs in suppurative infections characterized by formation of pus.

## 3. Fat necrosis

Fat necrosis can be caused by trauma to tissue with high fat content, such as the breast or it can also be caused by acute hemorrhagic pancreatitis in which pancreatic enzymes diffuse into the inflamed pancreatic tissue & digest it. The fatty acids released from the digestion form calcium salts (soap formation or dystrophic calcification). In addition, the elastase enzyme digests the blood vessels & cause the hemorrhage inside the pancreas, hence the name hemorrhagic pancreatitis.

## 4. Caseous necrosis

Caseous necrosis has a cheese-like (caseous, white) appearance to the naked eye. And it appears as an amorphous eosinophilic material on microscopic examination. Caseous necrosis is typical of tuberculosis.

## 5. Gangrenous necrosis

This is due to vascular occlusion & most often affects the lower extremities & the bowel. It is called wet gangrene if it is complicated by bacterial infection which leads to superimposed liquefactive necrosis. Whereas it is called dry gangrene if there is only coagulative necrosis without liquefactive necrosis.

Necrosis can be followed by release of intracellular enzymes into the blood, inflammation or dystrophic calcification. Inflammation will be discussed in the next chapter.

## 2. Apoptosis

Apoptosis is the death of single cells within clusters of other cells. (Note that necrosis causes the death of clusters of cells.) In apoptosis, the cell shows shrinkage & increased acidophilic staining of the cell. This is followed by fragmentation of the cells. These fragments are called apoptotic bodies. Apoptosis usually occurs as a physiologic process for removal of cells during embryogenesis, menstruation, etc... It can also be seen in pathological conditions caused by mild injurious agents.

Apoptosis is not followed by inflammation or calcification. The above mentioned features distinguish apoptosis from necrosis.

## VI. Pathologic calcification

Pathologic calcification is divided into 2 types:

### 1. Metastatic calcification

This is caused by hypercalcemia, resulting from hyperparathyroidism, milk-alkali syndrome, sarcoidosis etc...

### 2. Dystrophic calcification

This occurs in previously damaged tissue, such as areas of old trauma, tuberculous lesions, scarred heart valves, & atherosclerotic lesions.

Unlike metastatic calcification, it is not caused by hypercalcemia. Typically, the serum calcium level is normal.

## VII. Exercises

1. Why should you study cell injury?
2. Compare & contrast the various types of cellular adaptation.
3. Describe the various mechanisms of necrosis.
4. Mention some of the causes of each of the various types of necrosis.
5. Compare & contrast necrosis & apoptosis.
6. Contrast metastatic & dystrophic calcification.





# CHAPTER THREE

## INFLAMMATION

### I. LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the end of the chapter the student is expected to

1. Know the causes of inflammation
2. Understand the process of inflammations
3. Comprehend the etiopathogeneses of granulomatous inflammations
4. Contrast the differences between acute and chronic inflammations

### II. INTRODUCTION

**Definition:** Inflammation is a local response (reaction) of living vascularized tissues to endogenous and exogenous stimuli. The term is derived from the Latin "inflammare" meaning to burn. Inflammation is fundamentally destined to localize and eliminate the causative agent and to limit tissue injury.

Thus, inflammation is a physiologic (protective) response to injury, an observation made by Sir John Hunter in 1794 concluded: "inflammation is itself not to be considered as a disease but as a salutary operation consequent either to some violence or to some diseases".

#### Causes:

Causes of inflammation are apparently causes of diseases such as

- Ø **physical agents** - mechanical injuries, alteration in temperatures and pressure, radiation injuries.
- Ø **chemical agents**- including the ever increasing lists of drugs and toxins.
- Ø **biologic agents (infectious)**- bacteria, viruses, fungi, parasites
- Ø **immunologic disorders**- hypersensitivity reactions, autoimmunity, immunodeficiency states etc
- Ø **genetic/metabolic disorders**- examples gout, diabetes mellitus etc...

## Nomenclature:

- ∅ The nomenclatures of inflammatory lesion are usually indicated by the suffix 'itis'. Thus, inflammation of the appendix is called appendicitis and that of meninges as meningitis, etc.... However, like any rule, it has its own exceptions examples pneumonia, typhoid fever, etc....

## Classification:

Inflammation is classified crudely based on duration of the lesion and histologic appearances into acute and chronic inflammation.

## III. ACUTE INFLAMMATION

- ∅ Acute inflammation is an immediate and early response to an injurious agent and it is relatively of short duration, lasting for minutes, several hours or few days.
- ∅ It is characterized by exudation of fluids and plasma proteins and the emigration of predominantly neutrophilic leucocytes to the site of injury.

**The five cardinal signs of acute inflammation are**

- ∅ **Redness** (rubor) which is due to dilation of small blood vessels within damaged tissue as it occurs in cellulitis.
- ∅ **Heat** (calor) which results from increased blood flow (hyperemia) due to regional vascular dilation
- ∅ **Swelling** (tumor) which is due to accumulation of fluid in the extravascular space which, in turn, is due to increased vascular permeability.
- ∅ **Pain** (dolor), which partly results from the stretching & destruction of tissues due to inflammatory edema and in part from pus under pressure in an abscess cavity. Some chemicals of acute inflammation, including bradykinins, prostaglandins and serotonin are also known to induce pain.
- ∅ **Loss of function:** The inflamed area is inhibited by pain while severe swelling may also physically immobilize the tissue.

## Events of acute inflammation:

Acute inflammation is categorized into an early vascular and a late cellular responses.

1) The **Vascular response** has the following steps:

- a) Immediate (momentary) vasoconstriction in seconds due to neurogenic or chemical stimuli.
- b) Vasodilatation of arterioles and venules resulting in increased blood flow.
- c) After the phase of increased blood flow there is a slowing of blood flow & stasis due to increased vascular permeability that is most remarkably seen in the post-capillary venules. The increased vascular permeability oozes protein-rich fluid into extravascular tissues. Due to this, the already dilated blood vessels are now packed with red blood cells resulting in stasis. The protein-rich fluid which is now found in the extravascular space is called exudate. The presence of the exudates clinically appears as swelling. Chemical mediators mediate the vascular events of acute inflammation.

## 2) Cellular response

The cellular response has the following stages:

- A. Migration, rolling, paving, & adhesion of leukocytes
  - B. Transmigration of leukocytes
  - C. Chemotaxis
  - D. Phagocytosis
- Ø Normally blood cells particularly erythrocytes in venules are confined to the central (axial) zone and plasma assumes the peripheral zone. As a result of increased vascular permeability (See vascular events above), more and more neutrophils accumulate along the endothelial surfaces (peripheral zone).

A) Migration, rolling, pavementing, and adhesion of leukocytes

Ø





- ∅ It is probable that bacterial killing by lysosomal enzymes is inefficient and relatively unimportant compared with the oxygen dependent mechanisms. The lysosomal enzymes are, however, essential for the degradation of dead organisms within phagosomes.

**b) Oxygen-dependent mechanism:**

There are two types of oxygen- dependent killing mechanisms

**i) Non-myeloperoxidase dependent**

- ∅ The oxygen - dependent killing of microorganisms is due to formation of reactive oxygen species such as hydrogen peroxide ( $H_2O_2$ ), super oxide (**O<sub>2</sub>**) and hydroxyl

## IV. Chemical mediators of inflammation

Chemical mediators account for the events of inflammation. Inflammation has the following sequence:

Cell injury → Chemical mediators → Acute inflammation (i.e. the vascular & cellular events).

### Sources of mediators:

The chemical mediators of inflammation can be derived from plasma or cells.

#### a) Plasma-derived mediators:

##### i) Complement activation

- ∅ increases vascular permeability (C3a, C5a)
- ∅ activates chemotaxis (C5a)
- ∅ opsonization (C3b, C3bi)

##### ii) Factor XII (Hageman factor) activation

Its activation results in recruitment of four systems: the kinin, the clotting, the fibrinolytic and the complement systems.

#### b) Cell-derived chemical mediators:

Cell-derived chemical mediators include:

Cellular mediators	Cells of origin	Functions
Histamine	Mast cells, basophiles,	Vascular leakage & platelets
Serotonine	Platelets	Vascular leakage
Lysosomal enzymes	Neutrophiles,	Bacterial & tissue destruction macrophages
Prostaglandines	All leukocytes	Vasodilatation, pain, fever
Leukotriens	All leukocytes	LB4
	Chemoattractant LC4, LCD4, & LE4	Broncho and vasoconstriction
Platelet activating factor	All leukocytes	Bronchoconstriction and WBC priming
Activated oxygen species	All leukocytes	Endothelial and tissue damage
Nitric oxide	Macrophages	Leukocyte activation

- Ø Most mediators perform their biologic activities by initially binding to specific receptors on target cells. Once activated and released from the cells, most of these mediators are short lived. Most mediators have the potential to cause harmful effects.

## V. Morphology of acute inflammation

- Ø Characteristically, the acute inflammatory response involves production of exudates. An exudate is an edema fluid with high protein concentration, which frequently contains inflammatory cells.
- Ø A transudate is simply a non-inflammatory edema caused by cardiac, renal, undernutritional, & other disorders.

The differences between an exudate and a transudate are

	<b>EXUDATE</b>	<b>TRANSUDATE</b>
<b>Cause:</b>	Acute inflammation	Non-inflammatory disorders
<b>Appearance</b>	Colored, turbid, hemorrhagic	Clear, translucent or pale yellow
<b>Specific gravity:</b>	Greater than or equal to 1.020	Much less
<b>Spontaneous coagulability:</b>	Yes	No



## 2) Fibrinous inflammation

- Ø More severe injuries result in greater vascular permeability that ultimately leads to exudation of larger molecules such as fibrinogens through the vascular barrier.
- Ø Fibrinous exudate is characteristic of inflammation in serous body cavities such as the pericardium (butter and bread appearance) and pleura.

Course of fibrinous inflammation include:

- Ø Resolution by fibrinolysis
- Ø Scar formation between perietal and visceral surfaces i.e. the exudates get organized
- Ø Fibrous strand formation that bridges the pericardial space.

## 3) Suppurative (Purulent) inflammation

This type of inflammation is characterized by the production of a large amount of pus.

Pus is a thick creamy liquid, yellowish or blood stained in colour and composed of

- Ø A large number of living or dead leukocytes (pus cells)
- Ø Necrotic tissue debris
- Ø Living and dead bacteria
- Ø Edema fluid

There are two types of suppurative inflammation:

### A) Abscess formation:

- Ø An abscess is a circumscribed accumulation of pus in a living tissue. It is encapsulated by a so-called pyogenic membrane, which consists of layers of fibrin, inflammatory cells and granulation tissue.

### B) Acute diffuse (phlegmonous) inflammation

- Ø This is characterized by diffuse spread of the exudate through tissue spaces. It is caused by virulent bacteria (eg. streptococci) without either localization or marked pus formation. Example: Cellulitis (in palmar spaces).



∅ **Cell nutrition:** The flow of inflammatory exudates brings with it glucose, oxygen and



## VIII. CHRONIC INFLAMMATION

**Definition:** Chronic inflammation can be defined as a prolonged inflammatory process (weeks or months) where an active inflammation, tissue destruction and attempts at repair are proceeding simultaneously.

**Causes of chronic inflammation:**

### 1. Persistent infections

Ø

(Langerhan's cells), etc.... These cells constitute the mononuclear- phagocytic system.

Ø Macrophages are scavenger cells of the body.

**Other cells in chronic inflammation:**

1. **T-Lymphocytes** are primarily involved in cellular immunity with lymphokine production, and they are the key regulator and effector cells of the immune system.
2. **B-lymphocytes and Plasma cells** produce antibody directed either against persistent antigen in the inflammatory site or against altered tissue components.
3. Mast cells and eosinophils appear predominantly in response to parasitic infestations & allergic reactions.

Though neutrophils are hallmarks of acute inflammatory reactions, large numbers of neutrophils may be seen in some forms of chronic inflammation, notably chronic osteomyelitis, actinomycosis, & chronic lung diseases induced by smoking and other stimuli.

Thus, the overall differentiation points between acute and chronic inflammations include:

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Acute inflammation</b>	<b>Chronic inflammation</b>
Duration	Short	Relatively long
Pattern	Stereotyped	Varied
Predominant cell	Neutrophils	Macrophages, plasma cells
Tissue destruction	Mild to moderate	Marked
Fibrosis	Absent	Present
Inflammatory reaction	Exudative	Productive

**Classification of chronic inflammation:**

Chronic inflammation can be classified into the following two types based on histologic features:

- 1) **Nonspecific chronic inflammation:** This involves a diffuse accumulation of macrophages and lymphocytes at site of injury that is usually productive with new fibrous tissue formations. E.g. Chronic cholecystitis.

## 2) Specific inflammation (granulomatous inflammation):

**Definition:** Granulomatous inflammation is characterized by the presence of granuloma. A granuloma is a microscopic aggregate of epithelioid cells. Epithelioid cell is an activated macrophage, with a modified epithelial cell-like appearance (hence the name epithelioid). The epithelioid cells can fuse with each other & form multinucleated giant cells. So, even though, a granuloma is basically a collection of epithelioid cells, it also usually contains multinucleated giant cell & is usually surrounded by a cuff of lymphocytes and occasional plasma cells. There are two types of giant cells:

- a. **Foreign body-type giant cells** which have irregularly scattered nuclei in presence of indigestible materials.
- b. **Langhans giant cells** in which the nuclei are arranged peripherally in a horse -shoe pattern which is seen typically in tuberculosis, sarcoidosis etc...

Giant cells are formed by fusion of macrophages perhaps by a concerted attempt of two or more cells to engulf a single particle.

### Pathogenesis:

There are two types of granulomas, which differ in their pathogenesis.

#### A. Foreign body granuloma

These granulomas are initiated by inert foreign bodies such as talc, sutures (non-absorbable), fibers, etc... that are large enough to preclude phagocytosis by a single macrophage and do not incite an immune response.

#### B. Immune granulomas

Antigen presenting cells (macrophages) engulf a poorly soluble inciting agent. Then, the macrophage processes and presents part of the antigen (in association with MHC type 2 molecules) to CD4+T helper 1 cells which become activated. The activated CD4+ T-cells produce cytokines (IL-2 and interferon gamma). The IL-2 activates other CD4+T helper cells and perpetuates the response while IFN- $\gamma$  is important in transforming macrophages into epithelioid cells and multinucleated giant cells. The cytokines have been implicated not only in the formation but also in the maintenance of granuloma.

Macrophage inhibitory factor helps to localize activated macrophages and epitheloid cells.

## Diagram

### Causes:

Major causes of granulomatous inflammation include:

- a) **Bacterial:** Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Syphilis, Cat scratch disease, Yersiniosis
- b) **Fungal:** Histoplasmosis, Cryptococcosis, Coccidioidomycosis, Blastomycosis
- c) **Helminthic:** Schistosomiasis
- d) **Protozoal:** Leishmaniasis, Toxoplasmosis
- e) **Chlamydia:** Lymphogranuloma venerum
- f) **Inorganic material:** Berylliosis
- g) **Idiopathic:** Acidosis, Cohn's disease, Primary biliary cirrhosis

## I. SYSTEMIC EFFECTS OF INFLAMMATIONS

The systemic effects of inflammation include:

- a. Fever
  - b. Endocrine & metabolic responses
  - c. Autonomic responses
  - d. Behavioral responses
  - e. Leukocytosis
  - f. Leukopenia
  - g. Weight loss
- a. **Fever**

**Fever** is the most important systemic manifestation of inflammation. It is coordinated by the hypothalamus & by cytokines (IL -1, IL-6, TNF- $\alpha$ ) released from macrophages and other cells.

b. **Endocrine and metabolic responses** include:

- The liver secretes acute phase proteins such as:

C-reactive proteins

Serum Amyloid A

Complement and coagulation proteins

- Glucocorticoids (increased)

- Vasopressin (decreased)

c. **Autonomic** responses include:

- Redirection of blood flow from the cutaneous to the deep vascular bed.

- Pulse rate and blood pressure (increased)

- Sweating (decreased)

d. **Behavioral** responses include:

- Rigor, chills, anorexia, somnolence, and malaise.

e. **Leucocytosis** is also a common feature of inflammation, especially in bacterial



## IX. Exercises

1. Discuss the pathophysiology of the cardinal sign of acute inflammation.



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# CHAPTER FOUR

## HEALING

### I. Learning objectives

Upon completing the chapter, students should be able to:

1. Describe the processes of healing.
2. Specify the patterns of wound healing.
3. List the factors that influence wound healing.
4. Discuss the complications of wound healing.
5. Understand fracture healing.

### II. Definition of healing

The word *healing*, used in a pathological context, refers to the body's replacement of destroyed tissue by living tissue.

### III. Processes of healing

The healing process involves two distinct processes:

- Regeneration, the replacement of lost tissue by tissues similar in type and
- Repair (healing by scarring), the replacement of lost tissue by granulation tissue which matures to form scar tissue. Healing by fibrosis is inevitable when the surrounding specialized cells do not possess the capacity to proliferate.

Tissue Damage      Inflammation      Removal of dead tissue & injurious agent

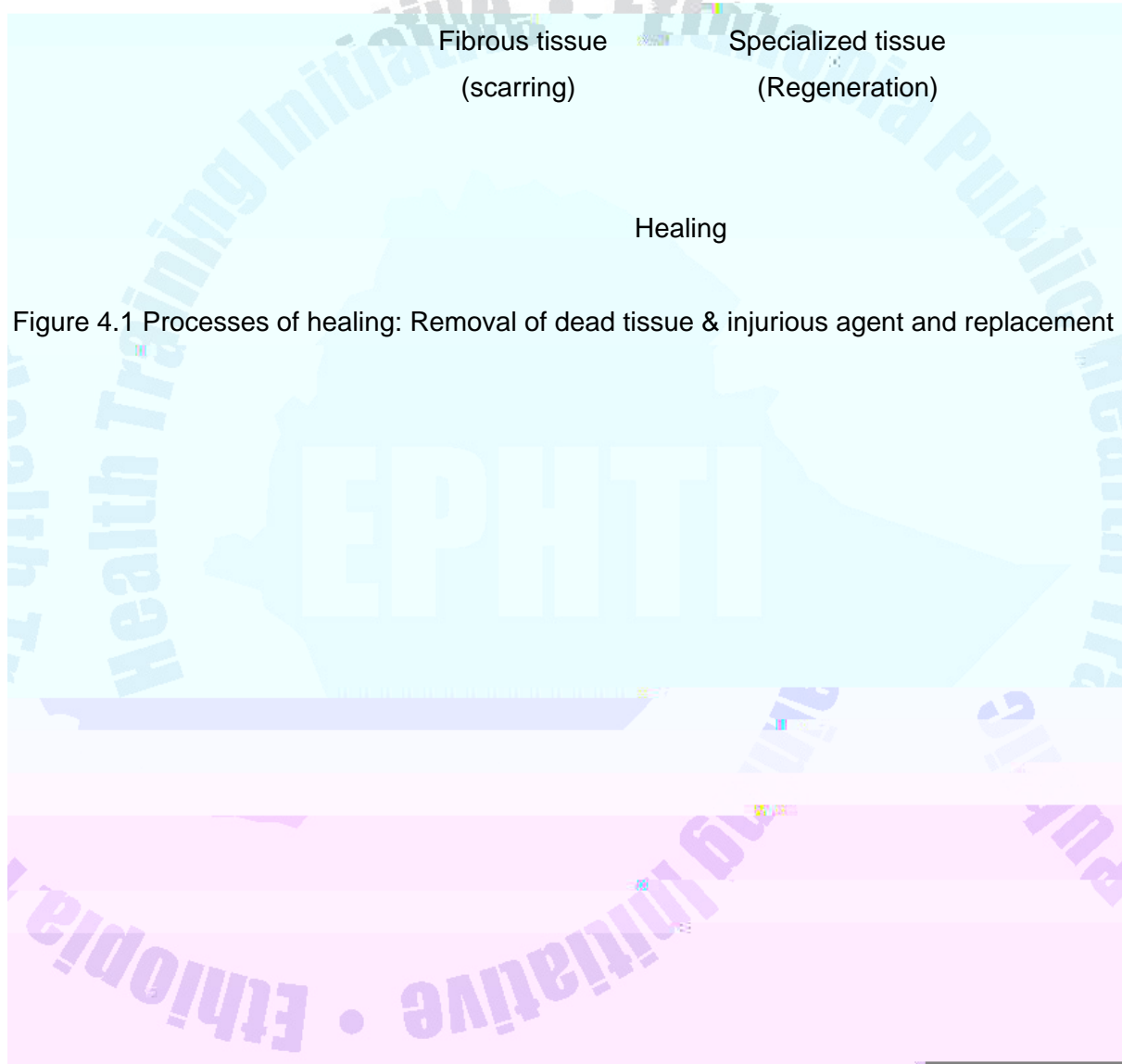
Replacement  
by

Fibrous tissue  
(scarring)

Specialized tissue  
(Regeneration)

Healing

Figure 4.1 Processes of healing: Removal of dead tissue & injurious agent and replacement

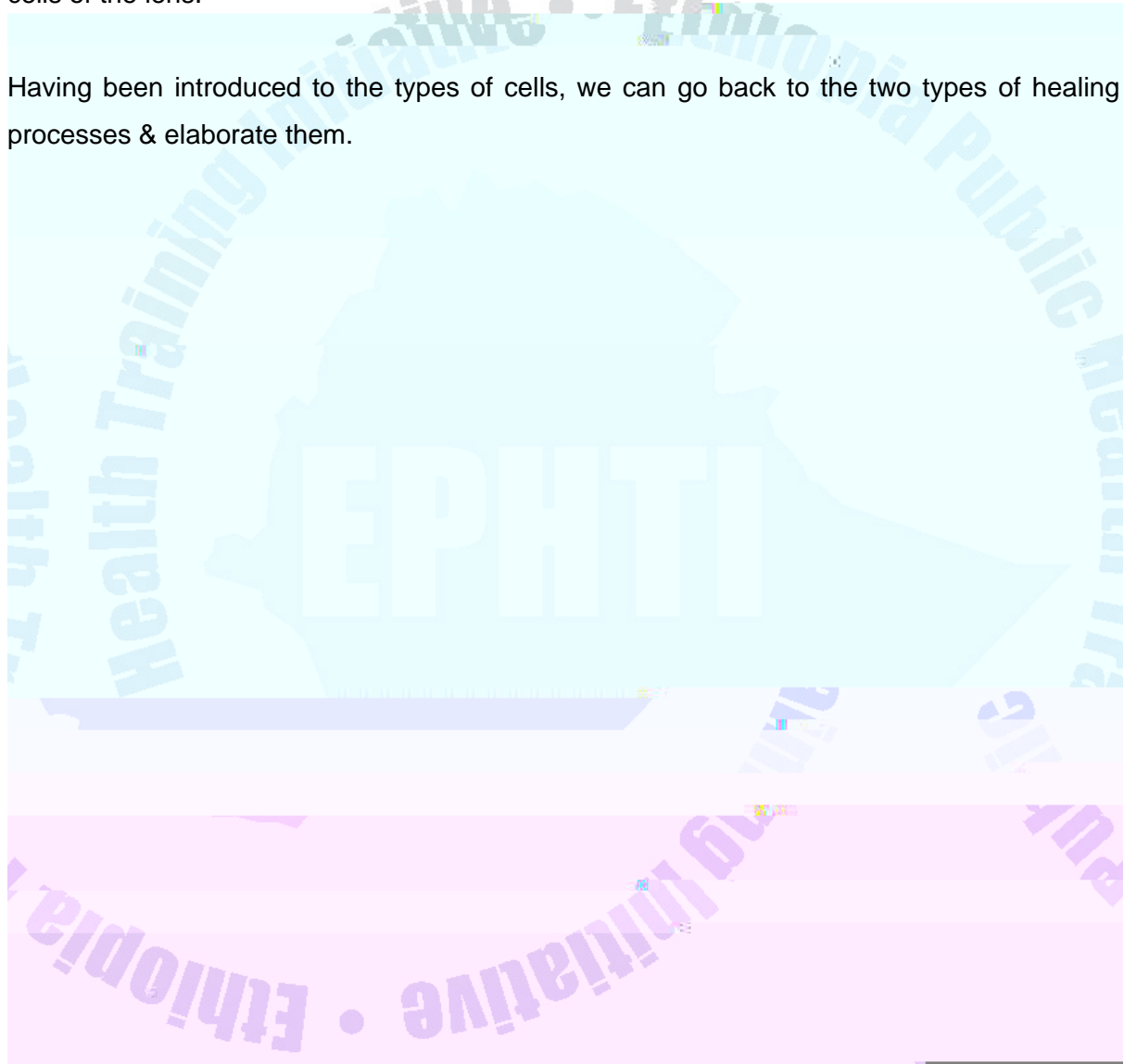


endocrine glands and renal tubular epithelium has also such type of cells which can regenerate. Their chances of regeneration are good.

### 3. Permanent cells

These are non-dividing cells. If lost, permanent cells cannot be replaced, because they do not have the capacity to proliferate. For example: adult neurons, striated muscle cells, and cells of the lens.

Having been introduced to the types of cells, we can go back to the two types of healing processes & elaborate them.





With further healing, there is an increase in extracellular constituents, mostly collagen, with a decrease in the number of active fibroblasts and new vessels. Despite an increased collagenase activity in the wound (responsible for removal of built collagen), collagen accumulates at a steady rate, usually reaching a maximum 2 to 3 months after the injury. **The tensile strength of the wound continues to increase many months after the collagen content has reached a maximum.** As the collagen content of the wound increases, many of the newly formed vessels disappear. This vascular involution which takes place in a few weeks, dramatically transforms a richly vascularized tissue into a pale, avascular scar tissue.

### **Wound contraction**

Wound contraction is a mechanical reduction in the size of the defect. The wound is reduced approximately by 70-80% of its original size. Contraction results in much faster healing, since only one-quarter to one-third of the amount of destroyed tissue has to be replaced. If contraction is prevented, healing is slow and a large ugly scar is formed.

### **Causes of contraction**

It is said to be due to contraction by myofibroblasts. Myofibroblasts have the features intermediate between those of fibroblasts and smooth muscle cells. Two to three days after the injury they migrate into the wound and their active contraction decrease the size of the defect.

### **Summary**

Following tissue injury, whether healing occurs by regeneration or scarring is determined by the degree of tissue destruction, the capacity of the parenchymal cells to proliferate, and the degree of destruction of stromal framework as illustrated in the diagram below (See Fig. 4.2). In the above discussion, regeneration, repair, and contraction have been dealt with separately. Yet they are not mutually exclusive processes. On the contrary, the three processes almost invariably participate together in wound healing.

# Injury

## Acute inflammatory exudation

Stimulus promptly  
destroyed

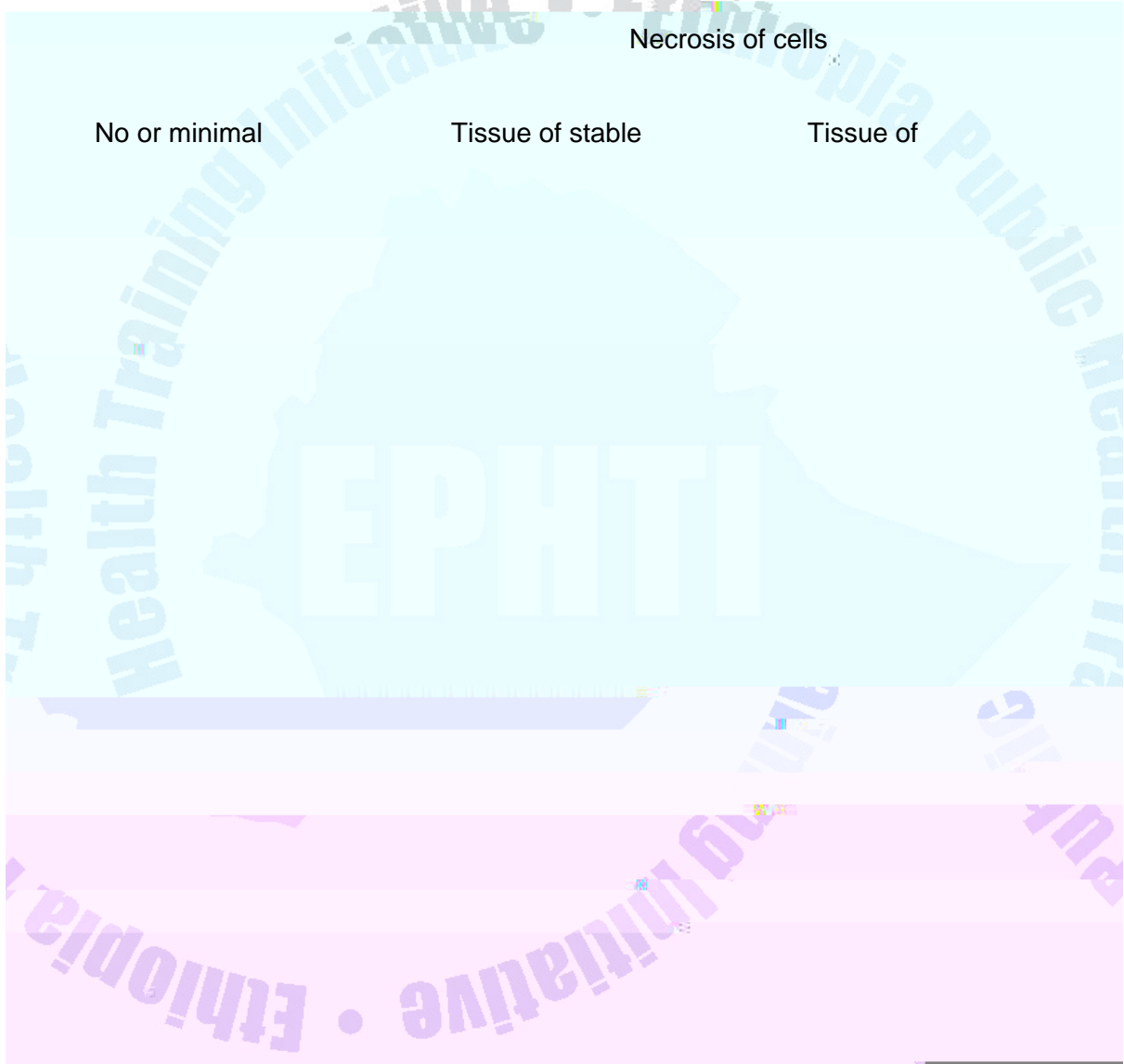
Stimulus not promptly  
destroyed

No or minimal

Tissue of stable

Tissue of

Necrosis of cells





## IV. Molecular control of healing process

As seen above, healing involves an orderly sequence of events which includes regeneration and migration of specialized cells, angiogenesis, proliferation of fibroblasts and related cells, matrix protein synthesis and finally cessation of these processes.

These processes, at least in part, are mediated by a series of low molecular weight polypeptides referred to as **growth factors**.

These growth factors have the capacity to stimulate cell division and proliferation. Some of the factors, known to play a role in the healing process, are briefly discussed below.

### Sources of Growth Factors:

Following injury, growth factors may be derived from a number of sources such as:

1. Platelets, activated after endothelial damage,
2. Damaged epithelial cells,
3. Circulating serum growth factors,
4. Macrophages, or
5. Lymphocytes recruited to the area of injury

The healing process ceases when lost tissue has been replaced. The mechanisms regulating this process are not fully understood. TGF- $\beta$  acts as a growth inhibitor for both epithelial and endothelial cells and regulates their regeneration.

The summary of molecular control of the healing process is illustrated with the diagram shown below.

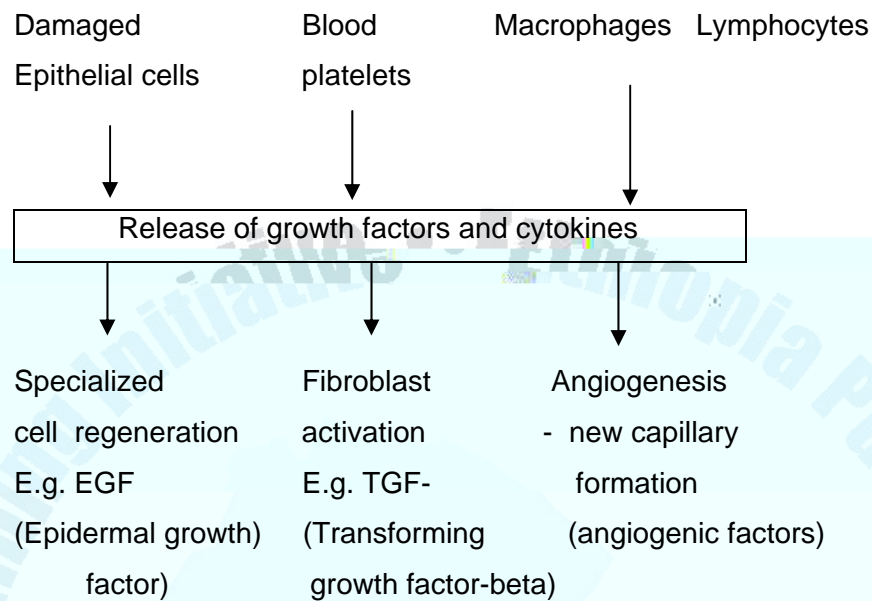


Fig. 4-3 Diagram showing sources of growth factors and their effect.

## VI. Wound Healing

The two processes of healing, described above, can occur during healing of a diseased organ or during healing of a wound. A wound can be accidental or surgical. Now, we will discuss skin wound healing to demonstrate the two basic processes of healing mentioned above.

Healing of a wound demonstrates both epithelial regeneration (healing of the epidermis) and repair by scarring (healing of the dermis).

There are two patterns of wound healing depending on the amount of tissue damage:

1. Healing by first intention (Primary union)
2. Healing by second intention

These two patterns are essentially the same process varying only in amount.

### 1. Healing by first intention (primary union)

The least complicated example of wound healing is the healing of a clean surgical incision (Fig. 4-4, left). The wound edges are approximated by surgical sutures, and healing occurs with a minimal loss of tissue. Such healing is referred to, surgically, as “primary union” or







- **Metabolic status**

Poorly controlled diabetes mellitus is associated with delayed wound healing. The risk of infection in clean wound approaches five fold the risk in non- diabetics.

In diabetic patients, there can be impaired circulation secondary to arteriosclerosis and impaired sensation due to diabetic neuropathy. The impaired sensation renders the lower extremity blind to every day hazards. Hence, in diabetic patients, wounds heal the very slowly.

- **Nutritional deficiencies**

**Protein deficiency**

In protein depletion there is an impairment of granulation tissue and collagen formation, resulting in a great delay in wound healing.

**Vitamine deficiency**

Vitamin C is required for collagen synthesis and secretion. It is required in hydroxylation of proline and lysine in the process of collagen synthesis. Vitamin C deficiency (scurvy) results in grossly deficient wound healing, with a lack of vascular proliferation and collagen deposition.

**Trace element deficiency**

Zinc (a co-factor of several enzymes) deficiency will retard healing by preventing cell proliferation. Zinc is necessary in several DNA and RNA polymerases and transferases; hence, a deficiency state will inhibit mitosis. Proliferation of fibroblasts (fibroplasia) is, therefore, retarded.

- **Hormones**

Corticosteroids impair wound healing, an effect attributed to an inhibition of collagen synthesis. However, these hormones have many other effects, including anti-inflammatory actions and a general depression of protein synthesis. It also inhibits fibroplasia and neovascularization. Both epithelialization and contraction are impaired. It is, therefore, difficult to attribute their inhibition of wound healing to any one specific mechanism.



that often accompanies metastatic cancer. Dehiscence of an abdominal wound can be a life-threatening complication, in some studies carrying a mortality as high as 30%.

An incisional hernia, usually of the abdominal wall, refers to a defect caused by poor wound healing following surgery into which the intestines protrude.

**b. Ulceration:**





#### 4. Excessive contraction



## Structure of bone

Bone is composed of calcified osteoid tissue, which consists of collagen fibers embedded in a mucoprotein matrix (osteomucin). Depending on the arrangement of the collagen fibers, there are two histological types of bone:

### 1. Woven, immature or non-lamellar bone

This shows irregularity in the arrangement of the collagen bundles and in the distribution of the osteocytes. The osseomucin is less abundant and it also contains less calcium.

### 2. Lamellar or adult bone

In this type of bone, the collagen bundles are arranged in parallel sheets.

## Stages in Fracture Healing (Bone Regeneration)

**Stage 1: Haematoma formation.** Immediately following the injury, there is a variable amount of bleeding from torn vessels; if the periosteum is torn, this blood may extend into the surrounding muscles. If it is subsequently organized and ossified, myositis ossificans results.

**Stage 5: Woven bone and cartilage formation.** The mesenchymal “osteoblasts” next differentiate to form either woven bone or cartilage. The term “callus”, derived from the Latin and meaning hard, is often used to describe the material uniting the fracture ends regardless of its consistency. When this is granulation tissue, the “callus” is soft, but as bone or cartilage formation occurs, it becomes hard.

**Stage 6: Formation of lamellar bone.** The dead calcified cartilage or woven bone is next



## IX. Exercises

1. Compare & contrast wound healing by primary & secondary union
2. State the factors that influence fracture healing.
3. Discuss the complications of wound healing.
4. What are the two basic processes of healing? What factors determine which of these occurs?



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3. F.B. Walter and M.S Israel; General Pathology, Churchill Livingstone Edinburgh and London, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, 1974
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# CHAPTER FIVE

## HEMODYNAMIC DISORDERS

### I. Learning objectives

Upon completion of this chapter, students should be able to:





**b. The interstitial fluid hydrostatic pressure (P<sub>if</sub>)**

This pressure tends to force fluid from the interstitial space to the intravascular space.

**c. The plasma colloid osmotic (oncotic) pressure (  $\pi$  )**

This pressure tends to cause osmosis of fluid inward through the capillary membrane from the interstitium. The plasma oncotic pressure is caused by the presence of plasma proteins.

**d. The interstitial fluid colloid osmotic (oncotic) pressure (  $\pi_{if}$  )**

This pressure tends to cause osmosis of fluid outward through the capillary membrane to the interstitium.

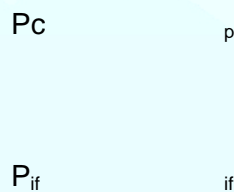


Fig. 5.1 The forces that determine the movement of fluid across the capillary wall.

The net filtration pressure can be calculated as

In addition, some fluid is normally drained by the lymphatic channels. Usually, excess fluid



**B. Edema resulting from increased capillary hydrostatic pressure** as in the following diseases:

1. Deep venous thrombosis resulting in impaired venous return.
2. Pulmonary oedema
3. Cerebral oedema
4. Congestive heart failure

**Clinical classification of edema:**

One can also clinically classify edema into localized & generalized types.

**A) Localized**

- 1) Deep venous thrombosis
- 2) Pulmonary edema
- 3) Brain edema
- 4) Lymphatic edema

**B) Generalized**

- 1) Nephrotic syndrome
- 2) Liver cirrhosis
- 3) Malnutrition
- 4) Heart failure
- 5) Renal failure

Next, we will elaborate on some of the above examples.

**1. Localized edema**

**a. Edema of the brain:**

- May be localized at the site of lesion e.g neoplasm, trauma.
- May be generalized in encephalitis, hypertensive crisis, & trauma
- Narrowed sulci & distended gyri.
- ↑ Edema → compression of medulla towards foramen magnum → compression of vital centers lead to - Herniation of the brain



Patient dies

**b. Pulmonary edema**

- Usually occurs in left ventricular failure.
- May occur in adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).
- lung ↑ 2.3x its weight.

## 2. Generalized edema (anasarca) occurs due to

- a. Reduction of albumin due to excessive loss or reduced synthesis as is caused by:
  - 1) Protein losing glomerulopathies like nephrotic syndrome
  - 2) Liver cirrhosis
  - 3) Malnutrition
  - 4) Protein-losing enteropathy
- b. Increased volume of blood secondary to sodium retention caused by congestive heart failure:



Fig. 5.2 Mechanism of edema formation in congestive heart failure:

Reduced tissue perfusion





Lymphatic edema occurs in the following conditions:

- 1) Parasitic infection. E.g. filariasis which causes massive lymphatic and inguinal fibrosis
- 2) Lymphatic obstruction secondary to neoplastic infiltration. E.g. breast cancer
- 3) post surgical or post irradiation, i.e. surgical resection of lymphatic channels or scarring after irradiation

#### 4) Sodium and water retention:

Sodium & subsequently water retention occurs in various clinical conditions such as congestive heart failure (See Fig.5.2, above) & renal failure. In these conditions, the retained sodium & water result in increased capillary hydrostatic pressure which leads to the edema seen in these diseases.

#### Morphology of edema

Microscopy

- Manifests only as subtle cell swelling. Clearing & separation of extracellular matrix.

### IV. Hypermia and Congestion

**Definition:** Both of them can be defined as a local increase in volume of blood in a particular tissue.

#### Hypermia

- is an active process resulting from an increased inflow of blood into a tissue because of arteriolar vasodilation.
- commonly occurs in exercising skeletal muscle or acute inflammation.
- Affected tissue becomes red as there is engorgement with oxygenated blood.

#### Congestion

- is a passive process resulting from impaired outflow of blood from a tissue.
- occurs systemically as in cardiac failure or locally as in isolated venous obstruction.
- Affected tissue appears blue-red due to accumulation of deoxygenated blood.

- In long-standing congestion (also called chronic passive congestion states), poorly oxygenated blood causes hypoxia results in parenchyma cell degeneration or cell death.

### a) Pulmonary congestion

Cut surface: hemorrhagic & wet.

#### 1. Acute pulmonary congestion:

- § Alveolar capillaries engorged with blood
- § Septal edema

#### 2. Chronic pulmonary congestion:

- Thickened & fibrotic septa
- Alveolar spaces contain hemosiderin-laden macrophages resulting in an appearance termed brown indurations.
- Can result in pulmonary hypertension.

### b) Hepatic congestion

#### 1) Acute hepatic congestion:

- Central vein & sinusoids are distended
- There may be even central hepatocyte degeneration.
- Peripheral hepatocytes better oxygenated & develop only fatty changes.

#### 2) Chronic passive congestion of liver:

- Central lobules grossly depressed because of loss of cells & appear red brown (**nutmeg liver**).
- Hemosiderin laden macrophages
- In longstanding hepatic congestion, commonly associated with cardiac failure, there is a grossly evident hepatic fibrosis called **cardiac cirrhosis**

## V. Haemorrhage

### Definition:

Hemorrhage is extravasation of blood outside the blood vessel.

### Causes:

- Physical trauma
  - Stabbing
  - Stick injury
  - Gunshot
  - Motor vehicle accident
- Inadequacies in blood clotting which can be due to:
  - A. Too few or poorly functioning platelets (i.e. qualitative & quantitative defect of platelets)
  - B. Missing or low amount of clotting factors
    - E.g. Low levels of prothrombin, fibrinogen & other precursors.
    - Inadequate vitamin K leads to clotting factor deficiency because this vitamin is important in the synthesis of the clotting factors by the liver.

### Terminology:

- 1) Haemorrhage enclosed within a tissue or a cavity is known as **hematoma**.
- 2) Minute 1-2 mm hemorrhages occurring in the skin, mucosal membrane, or serosal surface are called **petechiae**

## VI. Hemostasis and Blood Coagulation

### Hemostasis

**Definition:** Hemostasis is the maintenance of the clot-free state of blood & the prevention of blood loss via the formation of hemostatic plug.

Hemostasis depends on three general components:

- a) Vascular wall
- b) Platelets
- c) Coagulation pathways

Whenever a vessel is ruptured or severed, hemostasis is achieved by several mechanisms:

- A. Vascular spasm
- B. Formation of platelet plug
- C. Formation blood clot as a result of blood coagulation
- D. Eventual growth of fibrous tissue in to the blood clot to close the hole in the vessel permanently.

Remark: The student is advised to revise his physiology lecture note on the above topics.

## VII. Thrombosis

Under this topic, we will discuss the **definition, pathogenesis, morphology, fates, & clinical significance of thrombi, in this order.**

**Definition:** Thrombosis is defined as the formation of a solid or semisolid mass from the constituents of the blood within the vascular system during life.

### Pathogenesis:

- ∅ There are three factors that predispose to thrombus formation. These factors are called Virchow's triad:
- A: Endothelial injury
  - B: Stasis or turbulence of blood flow
  - C: Blood hypercoagulability



## A: Endothelial injury

- ∅ It is the most important factor in thrombus formation and by itself can lead to thrombosis.
- ∅ Endothelial injury is particularly important in thrombus formation in the heart & arterial circulation.
- ∅ Some Examples:
  - Endocardial injury during myocardial infarction & eosinophilic endocarditis in which eosinophils release from their granules crystals called Charcot – Leyden



- Examples:
  - a) Ulcerated atherosclerotic plaque, which forms a sort of irregularity on endothelial surface, not only exposes subendothelial extracellular matrix but are also sources of local turbulence.
  - b) Aneurysms are favoured sites of stasis
  - c) Myocardial infarction not only has endothelial injury but also has a region of noncontractile myocardium, creating an area of stasis resulting in mural thrombus formation.
  - d) Mitral valve stenosis after chronic rheumatic fever may result in left atrial dilation, usually associated with atrial fibrillation. A dilated left atrium is a site of stasis & a prime location of thrombus development.
  - e) Hyperviscosity syndrome, i.e an increase in hematocrit in excessive amount due to various reasons such as polycythemia causes stasis in small vessels.

### C: Hypercoagulability

**Definition:** Hypercoagulability is any alteration of the coagulation pathway that predisposes to thrombosis. Hypercoagulability is a less common cause of thrombosis & it can be divided into:

#### 1. Primary (Genetic)

- § Mutations in factor V[Lieden factor]
- § Anti thrombin III deficiency
- § Protein C or S deficiency

2. Secondary (Acquired) which, in turn, can be categorized into:

#### A: High-risk for hypercoagulability

- £ prolonged bed rest or immobilization
- £ Myocardial infarction
- £ Tissue damage (surgery, fracture, burns)
- £ cancers (Cancers release procoagulant tissue products to cause thrombosis)
- £ Prosthetic cardiac valves
- £ Disseminated intra vascular coagulation

**B: Low risk factor for hypercoagulability**

§ Atrial fibrillation

§



## Fates of a thrombus

A thrombus can have one of the following fates:

### A: Propagation:

The thrombus may accumulate more platelets and fibrin & propagate to cause vessel obstruction.

### B: Embolization:

The thrombus may dislodge and travel to other sites in the vasculature. Such a traveling thrombus is called an embolus. An embolus may obstruct a vessel. The obstruction leads to the death of the tissue supplied by the blood vessel. Death of a tissue due to a decreased blood supply or drainage is called infarction. Therefore, an embolus can eventually lead to an infarction of an organ. E.g cerebral infarction can be caused by a thromboembolus.

We will discuss embolism & infarction shortly (See p. ).

### C: Dissolution:

The thrombus may be removed by fibrinolytic activity.

D:



3. Malnutrition, debilitating conditions and wasting diseases such as cancer. DVT due to these conditions is known as **marantic thrombosis**.
4. Inflammation of veins (thrombophlebitis) also predisposes to thrombosis.
5. Migratory thrombophlebitis is a condition that affects various veins throughout the body & is usually of obscure aetiology, but sometimes it is associated with cancer, particularly pancreatic cancer. Migratory thrombophlebitis is also known as **Trosseau syndrome**.

## **B. Arterial Thrombosis**

- The rapid flow of arterial blood prevents the occurrence of thrombosis unless the vessel wall is abnormal.
- In western society atheroma is by far the commonest predisposing lesion for arterial thrombosis. Atheromatous plaques produce turbulence and may ulcerate & cause endothelial injury, both of which can lead to thrombosis. These thrombi may narrow or occlude the lumen of arteries such as the coronary and cerebral arteries. Occlusion of these arteries will lead to myocardial infarction (MI) & cerebral infarction respectively.
- Cardiac thrombi can be caused by infective endocarditis, atrial fibrillation, & myocardial infarction.
- Cardiac thrombosis is common on the heart valves & in the auricular appendages (especially, of the right atrium). A thrombus develops in the atrium in patients with atrial fibrillation & dilatation superimposed on mitral stenosis.
- Myocardial infarction causes dyskinetic myocardial contraction & damage to the endocardium, which usually result in mural thrombi in the ventricles.
- Apart from obstructive features, arterial thrombi (especially, cardiac mural thrombi) may embolize to any tissue, but, particularly, commonly to the brain, kidney, & spleen because of large volume of blood flow to these organs.

## VIII. Embolism

### Definition:-

An embolus is a detached intravascular solid, liquid or gaseous mass that is carried by blood to sites distant from its point of origin. After traveling via the blood, the embolus can obstruct a vessel.

### Causes of embolism:

An embolus can arise from:

- Thrombus (99% of emboli arise from a thrombus. Such an embolus is called thromboembolus)
- Platelets aggregates
- Fragment of material from ulcerating atheromatous plaque
- Fragment of a tumour
- Fat globules
- Bubbles of air
- Amniotic fluid
- Infected foreign material
- Bits of bone marrow
- Others.

Unless otherwise specified, the term embolism should be considered to mean thromboembolism. This is because thromboembolism is the commonest form of embolism. Next, we will discuss it in more detail.

### Thromboembolism

Based on its sites of origin & impaction, thromboembolism can be divided into:

#### a) Pulmonary thromboembolism (PTE)

- PTE is refers to the impaction of an embolus in the pulmonary arteries & their branches. Such an embolus is derived from a thrombus in the systemic veins or the right side of the heart.

## **b) Systemic thromboembolism**

- Systemic emboli arise from the left side of the heart or from thrombi & atheromatous debris in large arteries. And they impact in the systemic arteries.

## **c) Crossed embolism (Paradoxical embolism)**

- This occurs in the presence of patent foremen ovale when an embolus is transferred from the right to the left side of the heart, then into the systemic circulation.

Now, we will elaborate the first two.

## **a) Pulmonary thromboembolism (PTE)**

95% of PTE arise from thrombi in the deep leg veins. The thromboembolus will travel long with the venous return & reach the right side of the heart. From there, it will go into the pulmonary trunk & pulmonary arteries. Depending on the size of the embolus and on the state of pulmonary circulation, the pulmonary embolism can have the following effects:

1. If the thrombus is large, it may block the outflow tract of the right ventricle or the bifurcation of the main pulmonary trunk (**saddle embolus**) or both of its branches, causing sudden death by circulatory arrest. Sudden death, right side heart failure (cor pulmonale), or cardiovascular collapse occurs when 60% or more of the pulmonary circulation is obstructed with emboli.
2. If the embolus is very small (as in 60-80% of the cases), the pulmonary emboli will be clinically silent. Embolic obstruction of medium sized arteries manifests as pulmonary haemorrhage but usually does not cause infarction because of dual blood inflow to the area from the bronchial circulation.
3. If the cardiorespiratory condition of the patient is poor (i.e., if the patient previously had cardiac or pulmonary disease), then obstruction of a medium sized pulmonary artery by a medium-sized embolus can lead to pulmonary infarction.
4. Recurrent thromboembolism can lead to pulmonary hypertension in the long run.

A patient who has had one pulmonary embolus is at high risk of having more.

## **b) Systemic thromboembolism**

- Systemic thromboembolism refers to emboli travelling within arterial circulation & impacting in the systemic arteries.



- Most systemic emboli (80%) arise from intracardiac mural thrombi. In turn, two thirds of intracardiac mural thrombi are associated with left ventricular wall infarcts and another quarter with dilated left atria secondary to rheumatic valvular heart disease.
- The remaining (20%) of systemic emboli arise from aortic aneurysm, thrombi on ulcerated atherosclerotic plaques, or fragmentation of valvular vegetation.
- Unlike venous emboli, which tend to lodge primarily in one vascular bed (the lung), arterial emboli can travel to a wide variety of sites. The major sites for arteriolar embolization are the lower extremities (75%) & the brain (10%), with the rest lodging in the intestines, kidney, & spleen. The emboli may obstruct the arterial blood flow to the tissue distal to the site of the obstruction. This obstruction may lead to infarction. The infarctions, in turn, will lead to different clinical features which vary according to the organ involved.

Next, we will briefly touch upon some rare forms of embolism.

### **Fat Embolism**

Fat embolism usually follows fracture of bones and other type of tissue injury. After the injury, globules of fat frequently enter the circulation. Although traumatic fat embolisms occur usually it is as symptomatic in most cases and fat is removed. But in some severe injuries the fat emboli may cause occlusion of pulmonary or cerebral microvasculature and fat embolism syndrome may result. Fat embolism syndrome typically begins 1 to 3 days after injury during which the raised tissue pressure caused by swelling of damaged tissue forces fat into marrow sinusoids & veins. The features of this syndrome are a sudden onset of dyspnea, blood stained sputum, tachycardia, mental confusion with neurologic symptoms including irritability & restlessness, sometimes progress to delirium & coma.

### **5. Air embolism**

Gas bubbles within the circulation can obstruct vascular flow and cause distal ischemic injury almost as readily as thrombotic masses. Air may enter the circulation during:

- Obstetric procedures
- Chest wall injury
- In deep sea divers & under water construction workers.
- In individuals in unpressurized aircraft



**The development & the size of an infarct are determined by the following factors:**

- A. The nature of the vascular supply
- B. The rate of development of occlusion
- C. Susceptibility of the tissue for hypoxia
- D. Oxygen content of the blood
- E. The severity & duration of ischemia

**A. The nature of vascular supply**

The following organs have a dual blood supply.

- Lung → pulmonary artery  
→ Bronchial artery
- Liver → hepatic artery  
→ Portal vein
- Hand & forearm  
→ Radial arteries  
→ Ulnar arteries.

The effect of such a dual blood supply is that if there is obstruction of one of the arterial supplies, the other one may offset the rapid occurrence of infarction in these organs unlike the renal & splenic circulations which have end arterial supply.

Infarction caused by venous thrombosis is more likely to occur in organs with single venous outflow channels, such as testis & ovary.

**B: Rate of development occlusion**

Slowly developing occlusions are less likely to cause infarction since

### **C: Tissue susceptibility to hypoxia:**

The susceptibility of a tissue to hypoxia influences the likelihood of infarction. Neurons undergo irreversible damage when deprived of their blood supply for only 3 to 4 minutes. Myocardial cells die after 20-30 minutes of ischemia. Fibroblasts are more resistant, especially those in the myocardium.

### **D: Oxygen content of blood**

Partial obstruction of the flow of blood in an anaemic or cyanotic patient may lead to tissue infarction.

### **E: The severity & duration of ischemia.**

#### **Types of infarcts**

Infarcts are classified depending on:

A) the basis of their colour (reflecting the amount of haemorrhage) into:

1. Hemorrhagic (Red) infarcts
2. Anemic (White) infarcts

B) the presence or absence of microbial infection into:

1. Septic infarcts
2. Bland infarcts

**1. Red infarcts** occur in:

- a) Venous occlusions as in ovarian torsion
- b) Loose tissues such as the lung which allow blood to collect in infarct zone.
- c) Tissues with dual circulations (eg. the lung), permitting flow of blood from unobstructed vessel into necrotic zone.
- d) In tissues that were previously congested because of sluggish outflow of blood.
- e) When blood flow is reestablished to a site of previous arterial occlusion & necrosis.

2. **White infarcts** occur in:

- a) Arterial occlusion in organs with a single arterial blood supply.
- b) Solid organs such as the heart, spleen, & kidney, where the solidity of the tissue limits the amount of hemorrhage that can percolate or seep in to the area of ischemic necrosis from the nearby capillaries.

### **Morphology of infarcts**

**Gross:** All infarcts are wedge-shaped with the occluded vessel at the apex and the periphery of the organ forming the base of the wedge. The infarction will induce inflammation in the tissue surrounding the area of infarction. Following inflammation, some of the infarcts may show recovery, however, most are ultimately replaced with scars except in the brain.

### **Microscopy:**

The dominant histologic feature of infarction is ischemic coagulative necrosis. The brain is an exception to this generalization, where liquefactive necrosis is common.

### **Clinical examples of infarction:**

#### **A. Myocardial infarction**

- Ä Usually results from occlusive thrombosis supervening on ulcerating atheroma of a major coronary artery.
- Ä Is a white infarct.
- Ä Can cause sudden death, cardiac failure, etc...

#### **B. Cerebral infarcts**

- Ä May appear as pale or hemorrhagic
- Ä A fatal increase in intracranial pressure may occur due to swelling of large cerebral infarction, as recent infarcts are raised above the surface since hypoxic cells lack the ability to maintain ionic gradients & they absorb water & swell.
- Ä Is one type of cerebrovascular accidents (CVA) or stroke which has various clinical manifestations.

### C. Lung infarcts

- Are typically dark red & conical (wedge-shaped).
- Can cause chest pain, hemoptysis, etc...

### D. Splenic infarcts

- Conical & sub capsular
- Initially dark red later turned to be pale.

## X. Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation (DIC)

**Definition:** -DIC is an acute, or chronic thrombohemorrhagic disorder occurring as a result of progressive activation of coagulation pathway beyond physiologic set point secondary to a variety of diseases resulting in failure of all components of hemostasis. Hence the other term for DIC is **consumption coagulopathy**.

### Etiology and Pathogenesis

At the outset, it must be emphasized that DIC is not a primary disease. It is a coagulopathy that occurs in the course of variety of clinical conditions. DIC follows massive or prolonged release of soluble tissue factors & /or endothelial-derived thromboplastin into the circulation with generalized (pathologic) activation of coagulation system.

Therefore, DIC results from pathologic activation of the extrinsic &/or intrinsic pathways of



catheter sites. Respiratory symptoms such as dyspnea, cyanosis may occur. They may present with convulsion & coma in the case of CNS bleeding or with acute renal failure with oliguria. Less often, they may present with acrocyanosis, pre-gangrenous changes in the digits, genitalia, & nose areas where blood flow may be markedly decreased. Circulatory failure may appear suddenly & may be progressing. The presentations of acute DIC, as it occurs in case of trauma or obstetric conditions, is dominated by bleeding diathesis.

Laboratory manifestations include thrombocytopenia secondary to platelets aggregation in the thrombus, schistocytes or fragmented RBCs, prolonged PT, PTT, thrombin time & reduced fibrinogen from depleted coagulation proteins. There is also increased fibrin degradation product (FDP) from intense fibrinolysis. The cardinal manifestation of DIC, which correlates most closely with bleeding is plasma fibrinogen level, i.e. low fibrinogen means increased tendency of bleeding.



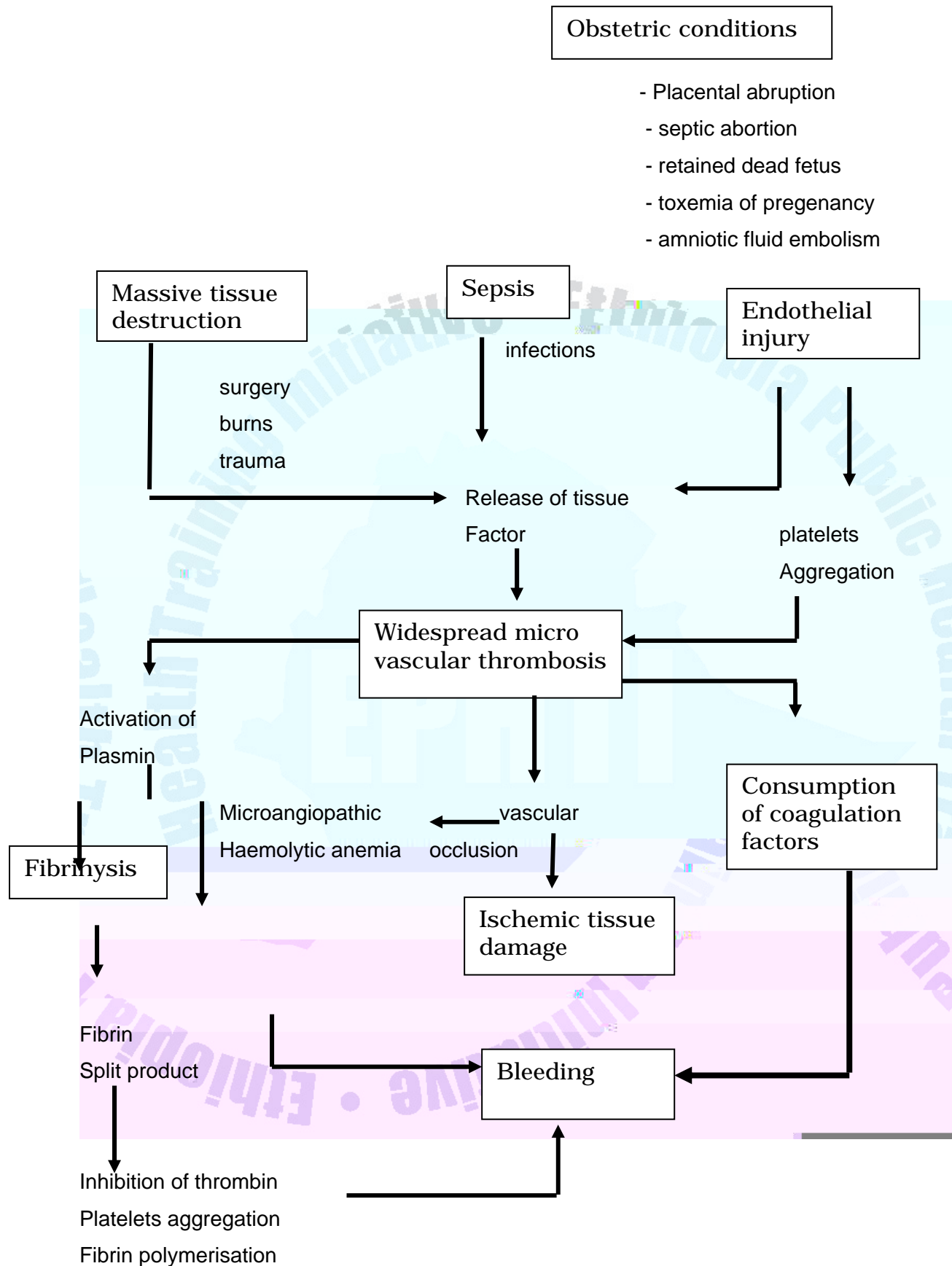


Fig. 5.3 Pathophysiology of DIC

## XI. Shock

**Definition:** Shock is a state in which there is failure of the circulatory system to maintain adequate cellular perfusion resulting in widespread reduction in delivery of oxygen & other nutrients to tissues. In shock, the mean arterial pressure is less than 60 mmHg or the systolic blood pressure is less than 90 mmHg.

- Regardless of the underlying pathology, shock constitutes systemic hypoperfusion due to reduction either in cardiac output or in the effective circulating blood volume. The end results are hypotension followed by impaired tissue perfusion and cellular hypoxia.
- Adequate organ perfusion depends on arterial blood pressure (BP) which, in turn, depends on:
  1. Cardiac output (CO)
  2. Peripheral vascular resistance (PVR)
- $CO = \text{stroke volume} \times \text{heart rate}$   
In turn, stroke volume depends on:
  - a) Preload i.e. blood volume,
  - b) Afterload i.e. arterial resistance, &
  - c) Myocardial contractility.
- Therefore, shock (i.e. widespread decreased perfusion of tissues) occurs when the



A) Myopathic causes of cardiogenic shock include:

1. Acute myocardial infarction. Usually shock occurs in this condition if 40% of the left ventricular mass & more on the right ventricle is involved by infarction.
2. Myocarditis
3. Dilated cardiomyopathy/hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
4. Myocardial depression in septic shock
5. Etc....

B) Mechanical

i) Intracardiac

- a) Left ventricle outflow obstruction E.g. Aortic stenosis, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
- b) Reduction in forward cardiac output E.g. Aortic or mitral regurgitation
- c) Arrhythmia

ii) Extracardiac

This can be called obstructive shock. The extracardiac causes of cardiogenic shock can be caused by:

- a) Pericardial tamponade (gross fluid accumulation in the pericardial space) results in a decreased ventricular diastolic filling CO
- b) Tension pneumothorax (gas accumulation in pleural space)  
This decreases the venous return by creating a positive pressure.
- c) Acute massive pulmonary embolism occupying 50-60% of pulmonary vascular bed.
- d) Severe pulmonary hypertension (1<sup>o</sup> pulmonary hypertension).

### C. Distributive shock

**Definition:** Distributive shock refers to a group of shock subtypes caused by profound peripheral vasodilatation despite normal or high cardiac output.

#### Causes of distributive shock

- 1) Septic shock – the commonest among the group & clinically very important.
- 2) Neurogenic shock

- Usually occurs in the setting of anaesthetic procedure [cephalo-caudal migration of anaesthetic agent] or spinal cord injury owing to loss of vascular tone & peripheral pooling of blood.

### 3) Anaphylactic shock

- Initiated by generalized IgE – mediated hypersensitivity response, associated with systemic vasodilatation & increased vascular permeability.

### 4) Endocrine shock

- This is a type of shock that typically occurs in adrenal insufficiency.

Next, we will discuss septic shock in some detail. But before discussing septic shock in detail it would be useful to know some aspects of sepsis briefly. **Bacteremia** is the presence of viable bacteria in the blood as evidenced by blood culture. **Septicemia** is systemic infection due the presence of microbes and their toxin the blood. **Sepsis** is a systemic response to severe infection mediated via macrophage-derived cytokines that target end organ receptors in response to infection. It is also called SIRS.

### Septic shock

**Definition:** This is a kind of shock caused by systemic microbial infection, most commonly by gram – negative infection (endotoxic shock) but can also occur with gram – positive or fungal infections.

or

It can be defined as sepsis with

1. Hypotention, arterial blood pressure less than 90mmHg or 40mmHg less than the patient's normal blood pressure,
2. Organ dysfunction, &
3. Unresponsiveness to fluid administration.

**Pathogenesis of septic shock:**





### **Morphology of septic shock:**

- All organs are affected in severe shock. In shock, there is widespread tissue hypoperfusion involving various organs such as the heart, brain, & kidney. This leads to widespread hypoxic tissue necrosis. The widespread tissue necrosis manifests as multiple organ dysfunction [MODS]. Various organs may fail to perform their normal functions. And lungs may show ARDS or Shock lung.

### **Clinical course of shock**

- Patient with shock may manifest as having a weak and rapid pulse, tachypnea, & cool, clammy, cyanotic skin. In septic shock, the skin will initially be warm & flushed because of peripheral vasodilation. The patient may present with confusion, restlessness, decreased urine output, coma, and death.



## XII. Exercises

1.
  - a) What is edema?
  - b) Enumerate four clinical conditions that cause generalized body oedema. Discuss their pathogeneses.
  - c) Enumerate the causes of oncotic and nononcotic oedema.
  
2. Case study I: A 40 year old patient got a car accident and he was found to have femoral shaft fracture & then he suddenly developed dyspnea, cyanosis, and shock and passed away immediately after surgery. There was no massive blood loss at the time of trauma or during surgery. The probable cause of death is:
  - a) Shock
  - b) Arterial emboli
  - c) Fat embolism
  - d) Stress
  - e) None
  
3.
  - a) Define infarction.
  - b) Briefly discuss the difference between venous & arterial thromboses
  - c) Enumerate the difference between red & white infarcts & the organs in which they commonly occur.
  
4. Case study II: A 28 year old female patient presented with fever, chills, decreased urine output, offensive vaginal discharge, and abdominal pain. One week earlier she had an abortion attended by a non-medical personnel with metallic materials. The doctor found out that her blood pressure was 60/20 mmHg, that she has altered consciousness, & a temperature of 38.9<sup>0</sup>c.
  - a) What is the primary problem?
  - b) What is the complication of the primary problem? Discuss the pathogenesis of this complication.
  - c) What organisms are the most likely causes of the disease?
  - d) What are the morphologic changes & their complications that will be seen in different organs in this patient?



# CHAPTER SIX

## GENETIC DISEASES

### I. Learning objectives:

At the end of this chapter, the student should be able to:-

1. Know the basis of genetic diseases.
2. Know the 4 major categories of genetic diseases.
3. Know the categories of mendelian disorders based on their pattern of inheritance & give some examples of each category.
4. Know the categories of mendelian disorders based on the type of protein involved (i.e. the biochemical mechanism) & give some examples of each category.
5. Know the different types of chromosomal disorders & give examples for each type.
6. Know multifactorial disorders.

### II. Introduction

A knowledge of the normal human genetics will facilitate the understanding of genetic diseases. Hence, the student is advised to revise the normal human genetics before reading this chapter. Here, only brief highlights of the normal are given. Genetic diseases are often said to be difficult to students. We have tried to dispell this wrong notion & to make genetic as clear as possible at the cost of brevity. we did in order to fa7(n & m8cal tl& m6tu p{ h type

Each chromosome contains a single continuous DNA molecule. DNA is composed of two very long complementary chains of deoxynucleotides. The 2 chains (strands) of DNA wind around each other i.e. twist about each other forming a double helix – “the twisted ladder model”. Each deoxynucleotide, in turn, is composed of a nitrogenous base {i.e. adenine (A), or guanine (G), or cytosine (C), or thymine (T)} bound to deoxyribose & phosphate.

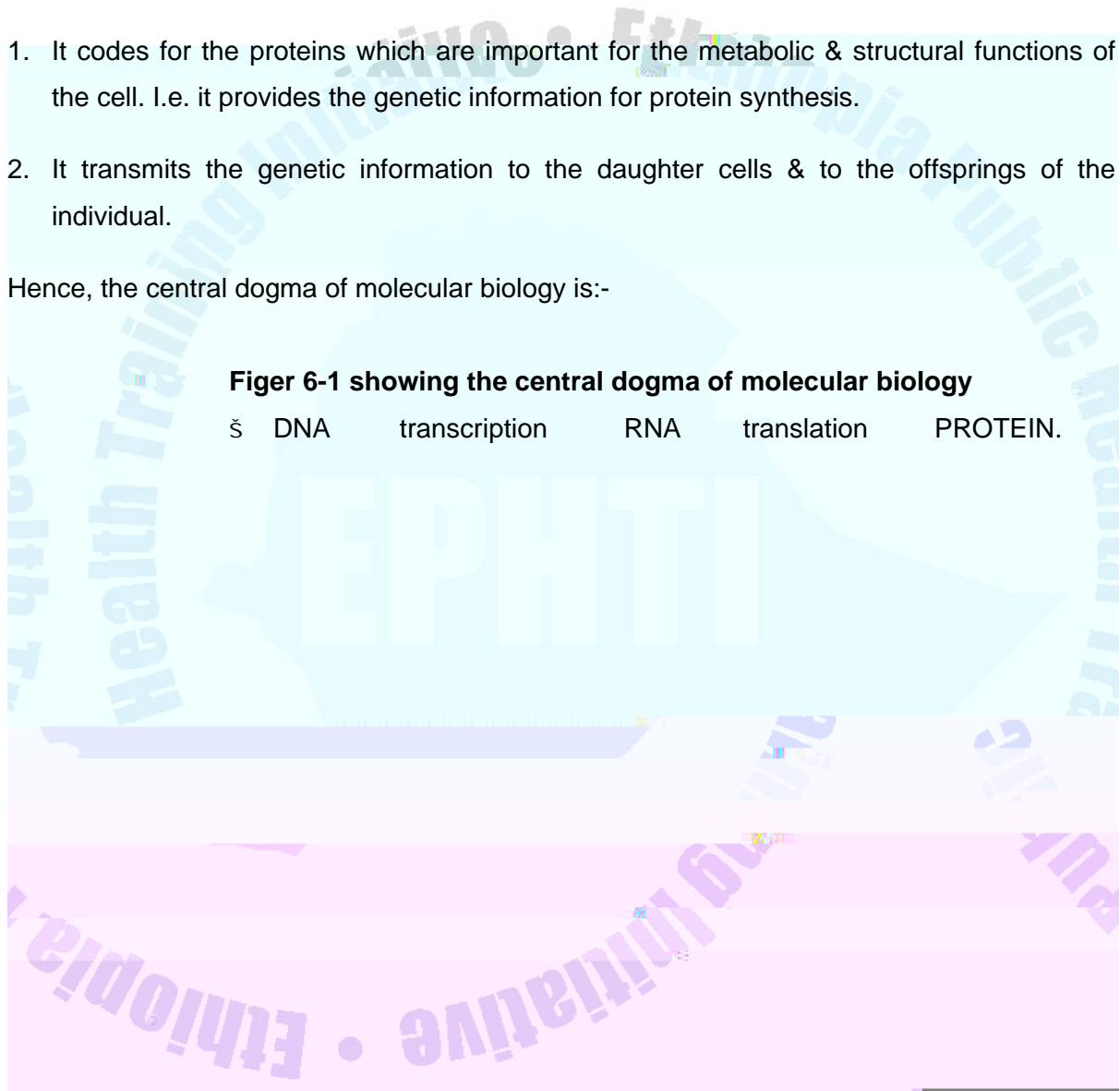
**DNA has two basic functions:**

1. It codes for the proteins which are important for the metabolic & structural functions of the cell. I.e. it provides the genetic information for protein synthesis.
2. It transmits the genetic information to the daughter cells & to the offsprings of the individual.

Hence, the central dogma of molecular biology is:-

**Fig 6-1 showing the central dogma of molecular biology**

§ DNA      transcription      RNA      translation      PROTEIN.



In summary, the primary sequence of bases in the coding regions of DNA determines the



they may cause cancer (because they confer a growth advantage to cells) & some congenital malformations. Mutations that occur during development (embryogenesis) lead to mosaicism. Mosaicism is a situation in which tissues are composed of cells with different genetic constitutions. If the germ line is mosaic, a mutation can be transmitted to some progeny but not others. This can sometimes lead to confusion in assessing the patterns of inheritance.

- affect the various levels of protein synthesis.
- can be classified into the following three categories based on the extent of the genetic damage:

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Each of these types are discussed below.

### **A. Point mutation (Single base pair change)**

- is the substitution of one base for another.
- includes the following types:-
  1. Silent mutations
  2. Missense mutations
  3. Nonsense mutations

#### **1. Silent (Synonymous) mutation.**

The genetic code is redundant (i.e. there is more than one codon for most amino acids) & therefore a change in one base may result in no change in the amino acid sequence of the protein. The base replacement does not lead to a change in the amino acid but only to the substitution of a different codon for the same amino acid. For example, the change of the codon UUU which codes for phenylalanine to UUC (i.e. the replacement of U by C) is a silent mutation because the new codon (UUC) also codes the same amino acid (phenylalanine).

#### **2. Missense mutations**

- changes the codon for one amino acid to the codon for another amino acid.
- is exemplified by the mutation which causes sickle cell anemia.

Hemoglobin is composed of a heme, two  $\alpha$ -globin polypeptide chains, & two  $\beta$ -globin polypeptide chains. In normal individuals, the codon GAG codes for glutamic acid in the 6<sup>th</sup> position of the  $\beta$ -globin polypeptide chain. But in sickle cell anemia this codon is changed to GUG which codes valine. Hence, as a result of this single base substitution, valine substitutes glutamic acid in the  $\beta$ -globin chain. This amino acid substitution alters the physicochemical properties of hemoglobin, which is now called Hemoglobin S. This leads to sickle cell anemia.

#### **3. Nonsense mutation**

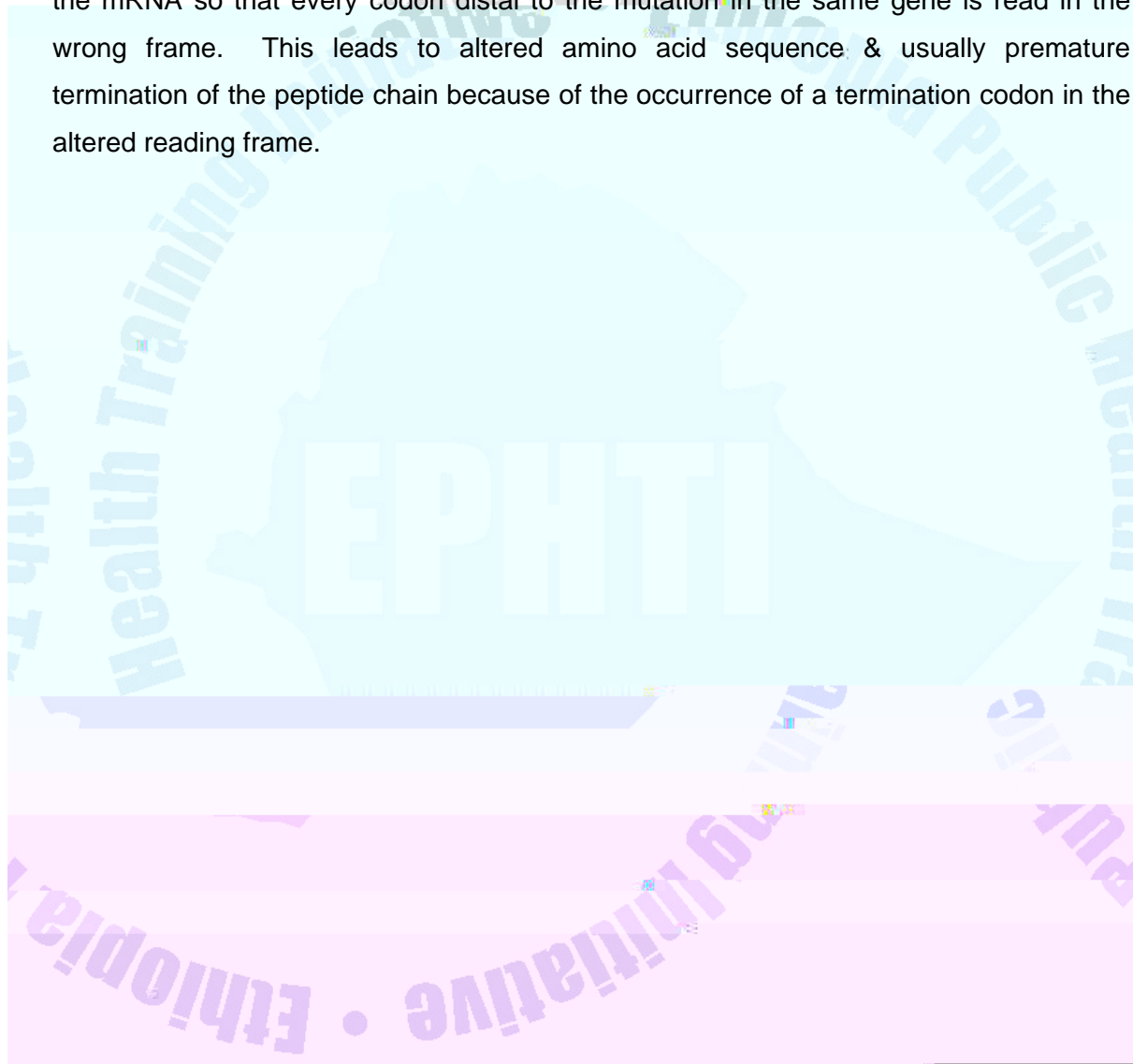
- changes the codon for an amino acid to a stop codon, leading to termination of translation of the mRNA transcript & a truncated protein.
- is exemplified by the mutation which causes  $\alpha^0$  – thalassemia. In this, a substitution of U for C in the codon 39 of the  $\alpha$  globin chain of hemoglobin (i.e. the change of CAG to UAG) converts the codon for glutamine to a stop codon. This results in premature termination of the  $\alpha$  globin gene translation. I.e. protein synthesis stops at the 38<sup>th</sup> amino

acid. This results in short peptide which is rapidly degraded leading to the absence of  $\alpha$ -globin chains. This leads to  $\alpha^0$  – thalassemia.

## B. Deletions & insertions

- can occur within coding sequences or within noncoding sequences.

- i. **Deletions & insertions of one or two bases within coding sequences** lead to frameshift mutations because they alter the reading frame of the triplet genetic code in the mRNA so that every codon distal to the mutation in the same gene is read in the wrong frame. This leads to altered amino acid sequence & usually premature termination of the peptide chain because of the occurrence of a termination codon in the altered reading frame.





Many different proteins are synthesized in each cell of the body. These proteins include enzymes & structural components responsible for all the developmental & metabolic processes of an organism. Mutation can result in abnormality in any of these proteins. Mutation      Abnormal protein/No protein/ Increased protein      Abnormal metabolic processes      Tissue injury      Genetic diseases.

#### IV. Categories of genetic diseases

Genetic diseases generally fall into one of the following 4 categories:

- a. Mendelian disorders
- b. Chromosomal disorders
- c. Multifactorial disorders
- d. Single gene diseases with nonclassic patterns of inheritance.

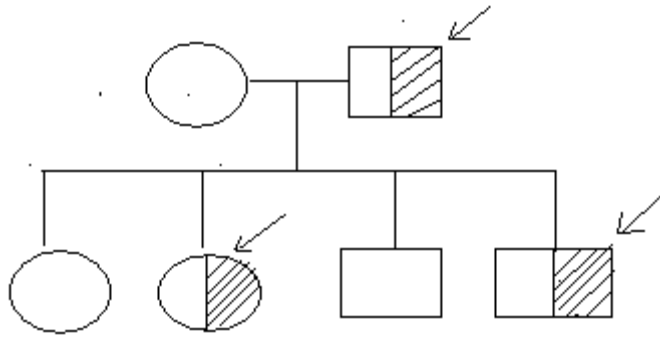
Each of these categories is discussed below.

#### V. Mendelian disorders

- Each mendelian disorder is caused by a single mutant gene.
  - affects transcription, mRNA processing, or translation
  - abnormal protein or decreased protein
  - may affect any type of protein      Disease.
- show the classic mendelian patterns of inheritance.
- are also called monogenic mendelian disorders.
- are uncommon.
- can be classified into the following based on their patterns of inheritance:
  1. **Autosomal dominant inheritance**
  2. **Autosomal recessive inheritance**
  3. **X-linked recessive inheritance**

The mode of inheritance for a given phenotypic trait/disease is determined by pedigree analysis in which all affected & unaffected individuals in the family are recorded in a pedigree using standard symbols & indicating the sex, the generation, & biologic relationship among the family members. In all mendelian disorders, the distribution of the parental alleles to their offspring depends on the combination of the alleles present in the parents.





Legend:-

Heterozygous male

Homozygous normal female

Normal male

Heterozygous female

Phenotypically affected

Fig 6.2. The pedigree for autosomal dominant pattern of inheritance. This figure shows the pedigree for a normal female parent & an affected male parent & their four children. Vertical distribution of the condition through successive generations occurs when the trait does not impair reproductive capacity.

### b. Additional features of autosomal dominant disorders

Each of the following may alter the idealized dominant pedigree (& they should be considered to provide the most accurate counselling):-

- i. Autosomal dominant disorders can sometimes be caused by new mutations. New mutations may give rise to an isolated case of a dominant disorder. New mutations are more often seen with diseases that are so severe that people who are affected by them are less likely to reproduce than normal. For example, the majority of cases of achondroplasia are the results of new mutations.
- ii. Autosomal dominant disorders can show reduced penetrance (i.e. some individuals inherit the mutant gene but are phenotypically normal). Penetrance is the probability of expressing the phenotype given a defined genotype. Penetrance is expressed as the percentage of individuals who have the mutant allele & are actually phenotypically affected. For example, 25% penetrance indicates that 25% of those who have the gene

express the trait. Penetrance can be complete or incomplete. Reduced (incomplete) penetrance is when the frequency of expression of a genotype is  $< 100\%$ . Nonpenetrance is the situation in which the mutant allele is inherited but not expressed.

- iii. Autosomal dominant disorders commonly show variable expressivity. Variable expressivity is the ability of the same genetic mutation to cause a phenotypic spectrum. It is when the trait is seen in all individuals carrying the mutant gene but is expressed differently among individuals. For example, some patients with neurofibromatosis type 1 (which is an autosomal dominant disorder) have only brownish spots (café au lait spots) on their skin whereas other patients with the same disease have multiple skin tumors & skeletal deformities. Therefore, neurofibromatosis is said to show variable expressivity. Variable expressivity most likely results from the effects of other genes or environmental factors that modify the phenotypic expression of the mutant allele. For example, individuals with familial hypercholesterolemia who take cholesterol-rich diet have a higher risk of manifesting with atherosclerosis than those individuals with hypercholesterolemia & who take low cholesterol diet. Hence, the variable expressivity in this case is brought about by the influence of an environmental factor (i.e. the diet). In general, variable expressivity & reduced penetrance can modify the clinical picture of autosomal dominant disorders.

### c. Pathogenesis of autosomal dominant disorders

Autosomal dominant disorders are caused by 2 types of mutations:

1. **Loss of function mutations**
2. **Gain of function mutations**

1. **Loss of function mutations** cause autosomal dominant disorders when they result in inactive or decreased amount of **regulatory proteins** (e.g. cell membrane receptors such as LDL receptor), or **structural proteins** (e.g. collagen, fibrillin, spectrin, dystrophin).

A 50% reduction in the levels of such **nonenzyme proteins** results in an abnormal phenotype (i.e. the heterozygote, who produces this much amount, will manifest the disorder). This can sometimes be explained by the dominant negative effect of the mutant allele (i.e. product of the mutant allele impairs the function of the product of the normal allele).

2. **Gain of function** mutations are much less common than loss of function mutations. In such cases, the mutant gene produces a **toxic protein** (i.e. the protein will have a new toxic function). This is exemplified by Huntington disease. Gain of function mutations almost always have autosomal dominant pattern.

**d. Clinical examples of autosomal dominant disorders:**

- Marfan syndrome\*
- Some variants of Ehlers – Danlos syndrome
- Osteogenesis imperfecta
- Achondroplasia
- Huntington disease
- Neurofibromatosis\*
- Tuberous sclerosis
- Myotonic dystrophy
- Familial hypercholesterolemia\*
- Hereditary spherocytosis
- Familial polyposis coli
- Polycystic kidney disease

\* Only these are briefly described here.

**Marfan syndrome**

- is a defect of connective tissue characterized by faulty scaffolding.
- is caused by mutations of FBN1 gene    Abnormal fibrillin (which is a structural protein)  
No normal microfibrils in the extracellular matrix    No scaffolding on which tropoelastin is deposited to form elastic fibers    Marfan's syndrome. Microfibrils are normally abundant in the aorta, ligaments, & ciliary zonules of the lens where they support the lens. Hence, Marfan syndrome (in which there is deficiency of normal fibrillin & microfibrils) mainly involves these tissues.
- is characterized by defects in skeletal, visual, & cardiovascular structures:-
  - i. Patients are tall & thin with abnormally long legs & arms, spider like fingers (arachnodactyly), hyperextensible joints.
  - ii. Dislocation of the ocular lens (Ectopia lentis) is frequent.



1. The scavenger receptor pathway:- In which oxidized LDL or acetylated LDL is removed by a scavenger receptor on the cells of the mononuclear phagocyte system, &
2. Hepatic clearance:- **70% of plasma LDL is removed by the liver (because LDL binds with LDL receptors** which are concentrated in certain regions ( called the coated pits) of the cell membrane of the hepatocyte). Then, the coated vesicles containing the bound LDL fuse with the lysosomes. in the lysosomes, LDL is degraded into free cholesterol which enters the cytoplasm.

There, **cholesterol**



This illustrates that knowing the pathogenesis of diseases greatly helps not only in understanding their morphologic & clinical features but also in the logical discovery of their treatment.

### **Neurofibromatosis:-**

- is a familial neoplasm. Familial neoplasms have neoplasm-causing mutations transmitted through the germ line. Familial neoplasms account for about 5% of all cancers & they are mendelian disorders. They are often inherited in autosomal dominant pattern with few exceptions. They are caused by mutations that affect proteins which regulate cell growth. And they are exemplified by neurofibromatosis types 1 & 2. It should be noted that most cancers are not familial & these non-familial cancers are caused by mutations of tumor-suppressor genes, proto-oncogenes, & apoptosis- regulating genes in somatic cells. Hence, these mutations are not passed in the germ line. Therefore, most cancers are not mendelian disorders i.e. they are sporadic or nonfamilial disorders. Here, neurofibromatosis which is a mendelian neoplasm is discussed.

#### **1. Neurofibromatosis type 1**

- was previously called von Recklinghausen disease.
- has autosomal dominant transmission in 50% of cases. (The rest 50% are due to new mutations).
- has extremely variable expressivity but the penetrance is 100%.
- is due to a mutation in the NF1 gene (which is a tumor-suppressor gene).
- mainly shows neurofibromas in the skin & other locations, café au lait spots (i.e. light brown skin pigmentations), & pigmented iris hamartomas (Lisch nodules). The benign neurofibromas can sometimes become malignant.
- may also show skeletal disorders such as scoliosis & bone cysts & increased incidence of other tumors especially pheochromocytoma & malignancies such as Wilm's tumor, rhabdomyosarcoma, & leukaemia.

#### **2. Neurofibromatosis type 2**

- was in the past called acoustic neurofibromatosis.
- is much less common than neurofibromatosis type 1.
- is an autosomal dominant disorder.
- is due to a mutation of the NF-2 gene ( which is a tumor suppressor gene)
- shows bilateral acoustic schwannomas, multiple meningiomas, & gliomas (typically ependymomas of the spinal cord).



## Autosomal recessive disorders

- will be discussed under the following headings:-

- a. Criteria
- b. Additional features
- c. Pathogenesis
- d. Clinical examples

In autosomal recessive disorders, the phenotype is usually observed only in the homozygote. The typical pedigree shows affected male & female siblings with normal parents & offspring. Recessive inheritance is suspected when parents are consanguineous; it is considered proven when the corresponding enzyme levels are low or absent in affected individuals & are at half normal values in both parents.

### a. Criteria

- i. If the trait is rare, parents & relatives other than siblings are usually normal
- ii. In the mating of 2 phenotypically normal heterozygotes, the segregation frequency with each pregnancy is 25% homozygous normal, 50% heterozygous normal, & 25% homozygous affected. See Fig. 2 below.
- iii. All children of two affected parents are affected.
- iv. Both sexes are affected in equal numbers
- v. If the trait is rare in the population, the probability of parenta consanguinity is increased.

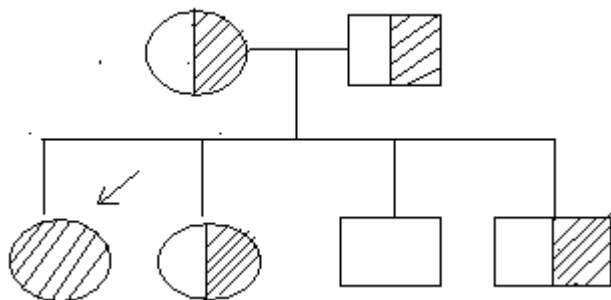


Fig 6.3. Autosomal recessive pattern. This diagram shows the pedigree for 2 heterozygous parents & their 4 children. Only siblings are affected. Vertical distribution of affected individuals is not usually seen. Horizontal distribution & consanguinity are seen in a multiplex pedigree. (Note: This is not a multiplex pedigree). See the legend of Fig. 1.

### b. Additional features

- i. Autosomal recessive disorders show more uniform expression of the trait than autosomal dominant disorders. (i.e. they don't show variable expressivity).

- ii. They commonly show complete penetrance.
- iii. They frequently show signs & symptoms early in life, whereas many autosomal dominant disorders have delayed onset e.g. Huntington disease clinically manifests for the first time during adulthood.

### c. Pathogenesis

Many autosomal recessive disorders are caused by **loss of function mutations** which result in **decreased enzyme proteins**.

Homozygotes    No normal enzyme    Disease.

Heterozygotes    Equal amounts of normal & defective enzymes    Cells with half the normal amount of the enzyme function normally    No disease.

### d. Clinical examples include:-

- Sickle cell anemia
  - Thalassemias
  - Congenital adrenal hyperplasia
  - Cystic fibrosis Wilson disease
  - Hemochromatosis
- Mendelian disorders associated with enzyme defects:\*
- o Phenylketonuria
  - o Galactosemia
  - o Homocystinuria
  - o Lysosomal storage diseases
  - o Alpha 1 antitrypsin deficiency
  - o Glycogen storage disease
- \* These will be discussed further.

### - Mendelian disorders associated with enzyme defects.

- have mutations    decreased amount of a normal enzyme or abnormal enzyme with decreased activity    Metabolic block    Consequences    Disease.
- show autosomal recessive pattern of inheritance because half the normal amount of enzyme is enough for normal function. Hence, heterozygotes (who produce this amount) do not manifest the disease. I.e. the inheritance is autosomal recessive.
- is illustrated by the following model of a metabolic pathway:- Substrate

Enzyme 1   Intermediate 1   Enzyme 2   Intermediate 2   M1   M2 (Minor pathway products)   Enzyme 3   Final product

If an enzyme of the above pathway is defective, then the consequences may be:

1. Accumulation of the substrate, &/or one or both of the intermediates, & the products of the minor pathway depending on the level of the block. These substances may be toxic in high concentrations & result in tissue damage. This mechanism occurs in the following diseases:

- Lysosomal storage diseases
- Galactosemia
- Phenylketonuria

2. Decreased amount of the final end product.

- This is exemplified by albinism.

3. Failure to inactivate a toxic substrate. E.g. Hereditary alpha -1 antitrypsin deficiency.

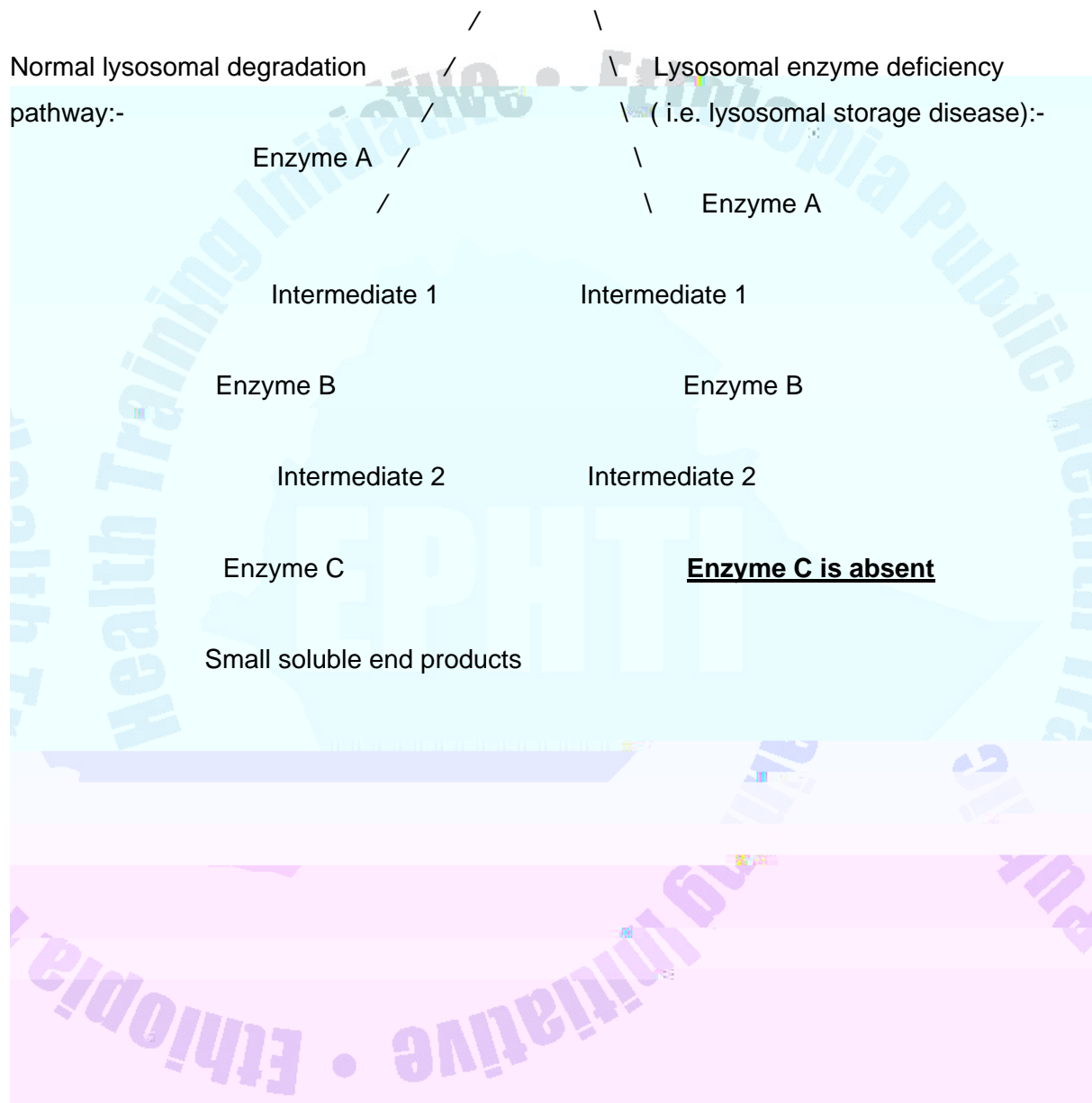
Mendelian disorders associated with enzyme defects include most inborn errors of metabolism such as:

- Lysosomal storage diseases (E.g. Gaucher disease)
- Phenylketonuria
- Severe combined immunodeficiency disease
- Alpha 1 antitrypsin deficiency
- Albinism
- Lesch – Nyhan syndrome

In order to illustrate the basic principles of this category, only the first two disorders from the above list are discussed below in moderate depth.

## 1. Lysosomal storage diseases

- result from lack of any protein essential for the normal function of lysosomes. Lysosomes are intracellular organelles used for degrading a variety of complex substrates. They do so by means of a variety of enzymes. The following figure compares the normal lysosomal degradation pathway with that of lysosomal storage disease. Complex substrate



The organs affected in lysosomal storage diseases (i.e. the distribution of the stored material) are determined by the following 2 factors:

i. The site where most of the material to be degraded is found.

E.g.1. Brain is rich in gangliosides, hence defective degradation of gangliosides as in Tay-Sachs disease results in the storage of gangliosides within neurons leading to neurologic symptoms. E.g.2. Mucopolysaccharides are widely distributed in the body. Hence, mucopolysaccharidoses (i.e. defects in the degradation of polysaccharides) affect virtually any organ.

ii. The location where most of the degradation normally occurs.

Organs rich in phagocytic cells such as the spleen & liver are frequently enlarged in several forms of lysosomal storage diseases. This is because cells of the mononuclear phagocytic system are rich in lysosomes & are involved in the degradation of a variety of substrates.

From among the various types of lysosomal storage diseases listed above, only Gaucher disease is discussed here to illustrate the basic principles of lysosomal storage diseases.

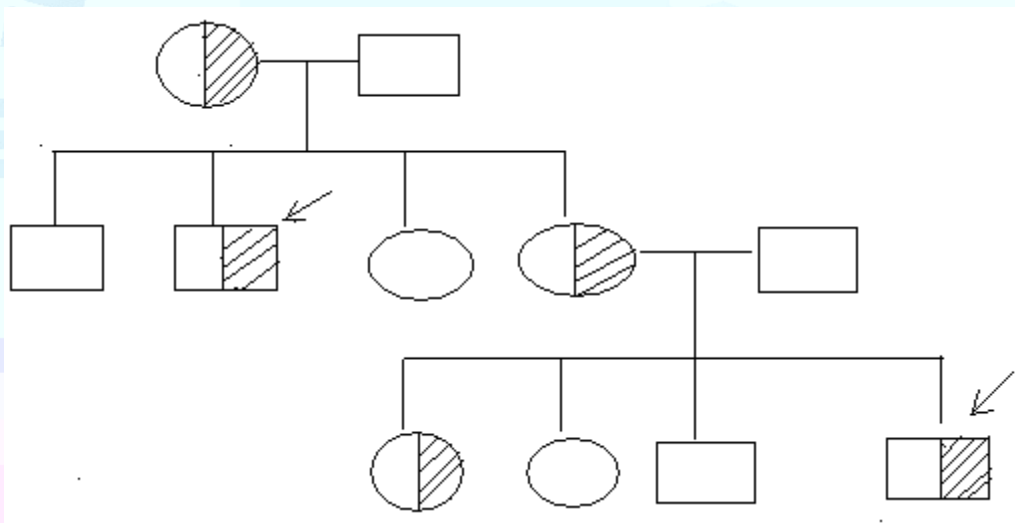
### **Gaucher disease**

- is the most common lysosomal storage disorder.
- is a disorder of lipid metabolism caused by mutations in the gene encoding glucocerebrosidase. Deficiency of glucocerebrosidase Accumulation of glucocerebroside mainly in the cells of the mononuclear phagocyte system & sometimes in the central nervous system. Glucocerebrosides are continually formed from the catabolism of glycolipids derived mainly from the cell membranes of old red blood cells & white blood cells.
- morphologically shows Gaucher cells (distended phagocytic cells with a distinctive wrinkled tissue paper cytoplasmic appearance).
- has 3 clinical subtypes : Type I (chronic nonneuronopathic), Type II ( acute neuronopathic) , & Type III (Juvenile).

Type I (Chronic non-neuronopathic form) (Adult Gaucher disease):-

- accounts for 99% of the cases.
- is found mainly in European Jews.
- does not involve the brain.
- shows accumulation of glucocerebrosides only in the cells of the mononuclear phagocytic system throughout the body.





## b. Pathogenesis of X-linked recessive disorders

The genes responsible for X-linked disorders are located on the X-chromosome, & the clinical risks are different for the 2 sexes.

Since a female has 2 X chromosomes, she may be either homozygous or heterozygous for a mutant gene, & the mutant allele may demonstrate either dominant or recessive expression.

The homozygous female (i.e. having the mutation in both the X chromosomes) will express the full phenotypic change of the disease

Clinical expression of X-linked recessive disorders in heterozygous females is often variable & is influenced by the normal random X-chromosome inactivation (i.e. lyonization) (See below). Normally, one of the two X-chromosomes in females is randomly inactivated. Therefore, in heterozygous females carrying X-linked recessive mutations, some cells have one active normal X chromosome & other cells have an active abnormal X chromosome containing the mutant allele. I.e. such females have a variable proportion of cells in which the mutant X-chromosome is active. Often the mutant allele is activated in only some of the cells. Therefore, the heterozygous female expresses the disorder partially & with less severity than hemizygous men. I.e. she usually does not express the full phenotypic change.



- Diabetes insipidus
- Lesch-Nyhan syndrome
- Fragile X syndrome
- Duchenne muscular dystrophy

### **X-linked dominant inheritance**

- is a rare variant of X-linked inheritance.
- is when heterozygous females & hemizygous males phenotypically manifest the disorder.
- is caused by dominant disease alleles on the X-chromosome.
- is transmitted by an affected heterozygous female to half her sons & half her daughters.
- is transmitted by an affected male parent to all his daughters but none of his sons, if the female parent is unaffected.
- is exemplified by vitamin D-resistant rickets.

### **Mitochondrial inheritance**

- is mediated by maternally transmitted

C. Abnormalities of autosomal chromosomes

E.g. Down syndrome

D. Abnormalities of sex chromosomes

E.g. 1. Klinefelter syndrome

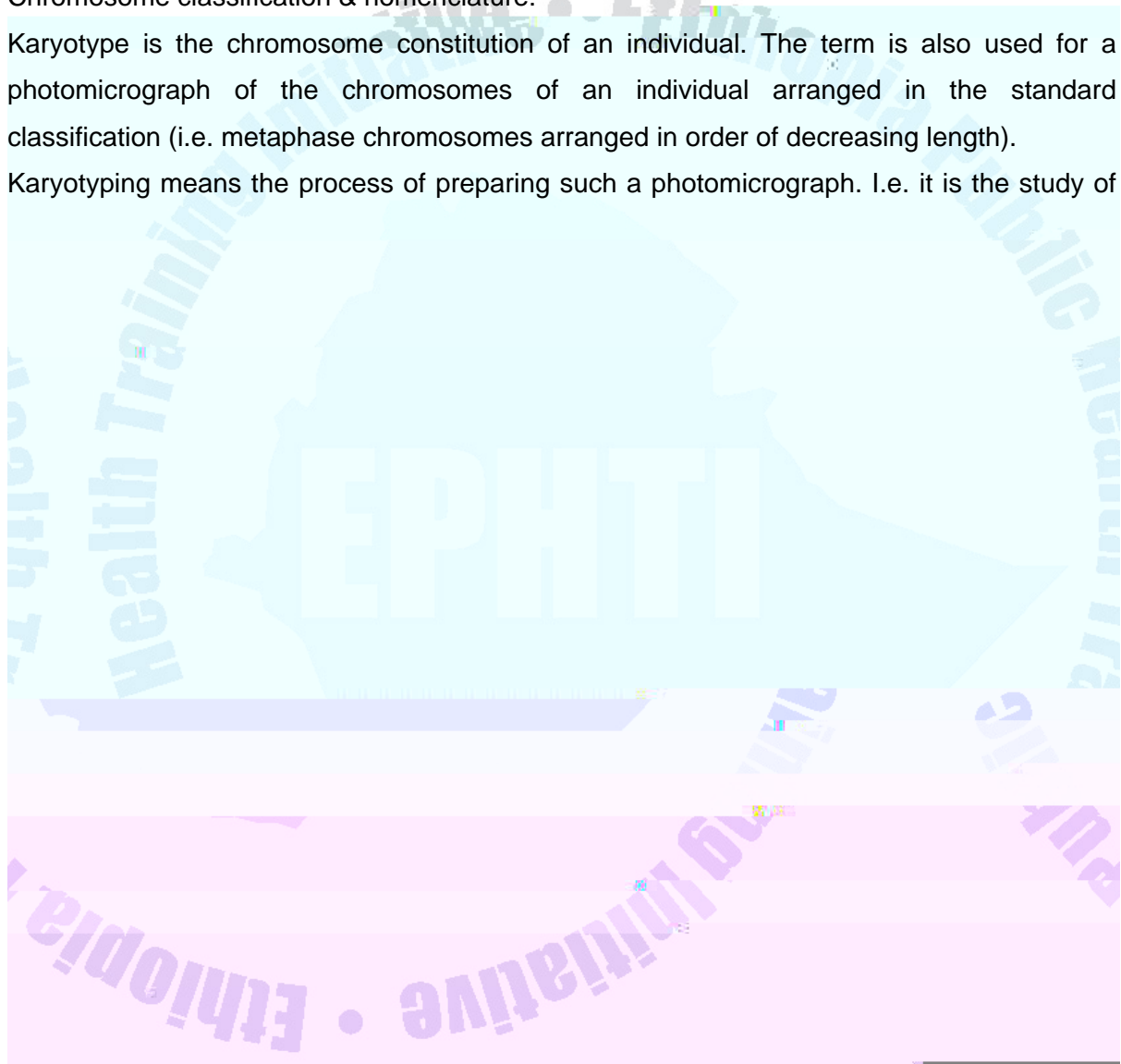
E.g. 2. Turner syndrome

**A. The normal karyotype**

Chromosome classification & nomenclature:

Karyotype is the chromosome constitution of an individual. The term is also used for a photomicrograph of the chromosomes of an individual arranged in the standard classification (i.e. metaphase chromosomes arranged in order of decreasing length).

Karyotyping means the process of preparing such a photomicrograph. I.e. it is the study of



The position of the centromere is used in the morphologic description of a chromosome:

Metacentric chromosomes have more central centromeres.

Acrocentric chromosomes have a centromere that is very close to one end. E.g. chromosomes 13 & 21.

In a banded karyotype, each arm of the chromosome is divided into 2 or more regions. The regions are numbered e.g. 1, 2, and 3 from the centromere progressing to the telomere. Each region is further subdivided into bands & sub bands which are also similarly numbered. Thus, Xq22.1 refers to a segment located on the long arm of the X chromosome in region 2 band 2, sub band 1. The following figure illustrates this.

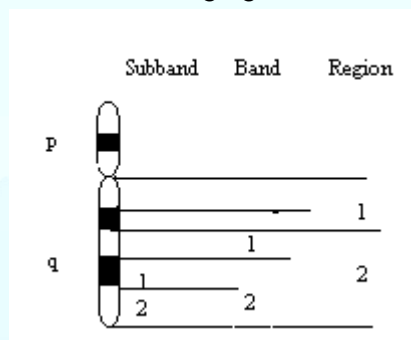


Fig. 6.7. Nomenclature of a chromosome showing the division of the long arm (q) of the chromosome into regions 1 & 2. Region 2 is further subdivided into bands 1 & 2. Band 2 is further subdivided into sub bands 1 & 2. Even though not shown in this figure, the other bands of this q arm & the p arm are similarly divided & numbered.

Karyotypes are usually described using a shorthand system of notations. The following order is used to describe karyotypes:

- § First the total number of chromosomes is given.
- § Second the sex chromosome constitution is given.
- § Finally any abnormality is described.

E.g. 1. A normal female karyotype is 46,XX. E.g. 2. A female with trisomy 21 is described as 47,XX,+21.

## **B. Types of chromosomal anomalies**

- Chromosomal anomalies may be numerical or structural.

1. Numerical anomalies can result in either aneuploidy or polyploidy.

i. Aneuploidy

- is addition or loss of 1 or rarely 2 chromosomes.





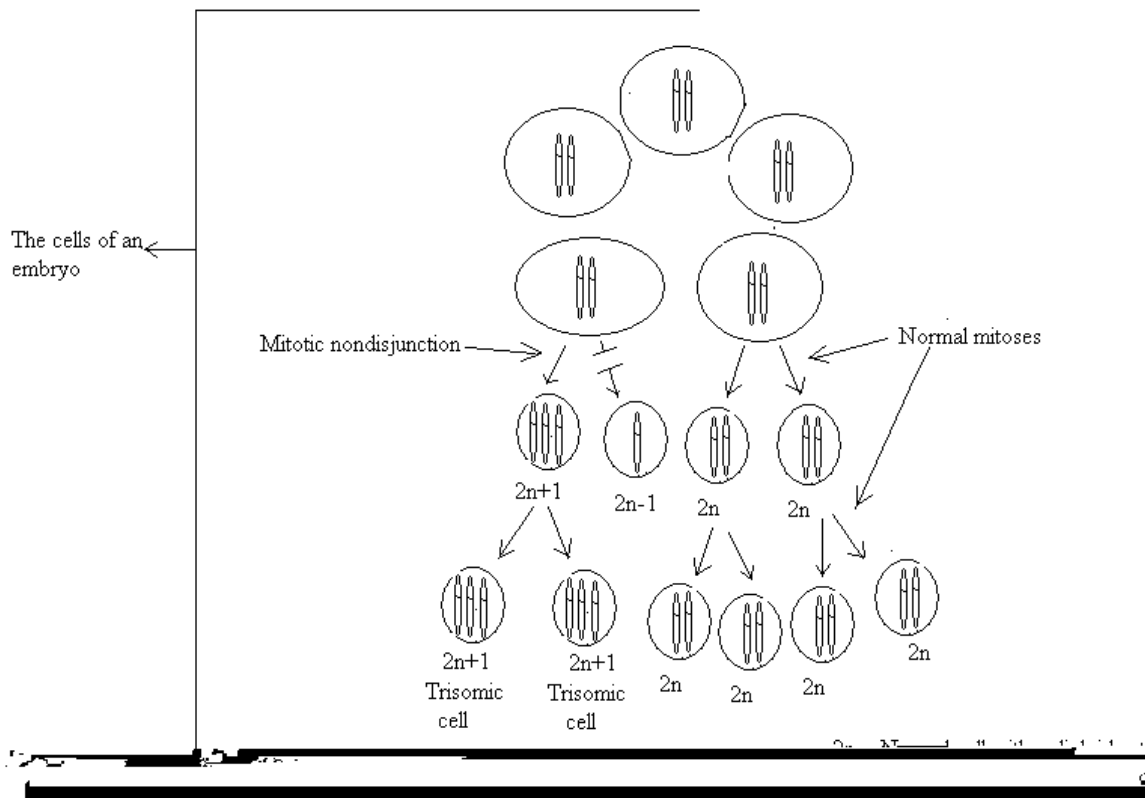


Fig.6.9. Mitotic nondisjunction at an early stage of development of an embryo.

The mitotic nondisjunction occurred in one of cells & resulted in a trisomic cell. All the descendants of this trisomic cell will also be trisomic. Also note that most of the cells undergo normal mitosis resulting in normal cells. Therefore, an individual formed from such an embryo will have 2 populations of cells – a trisomic cell population & a normal cell population. Such an individual is called a mosaic. And the clinical appearance of such an individual depends on the proportion of trisomic cells. Anyway, the clinical feature is less severe than that of an individual in whom all the cells are trisomic.

In general, monosomies & trisomies of the sex chromosomes are compatible with life & usually cause phenotypic abnormalities. But monosomies & trisomies of the autosomal chromosomes are not well tolerated. I.e. monosomies of autosomal chromosomes are

## **b. Polyploidy**

- is a chromosome number that is a multiple greater than 2 of the haploid number. Triploidy is 3x the haploid number (i.e.69 chromosomes).Tetraploidy is 4x.
- is rarely compatible with life & usually results in spontaneous abortion.

## **2. Structural anomalies**

- result from breakage of chromosomes followed by loss or rearrangement of genetic material
- are of the following types (See Fig.9 below):

### **i. Deletion**

- is loss of a portion of a chromosome.
- has the following subtypes (See Fig. 9):-

- Terminal deletions arise from one break. The acentric fragments that are formed are lost at the next cell division. This is denoted by using the prefix 'del' before the notation for the site of the deletion. E.g. 46,XX, del (18)(p14) or it can also be denoted by a minus sign following the number of the chromosome & the sign for the chromosomal arm involved. E.g. 46,XX, 5p- (which indicates deletion of the short arm of chromosome 5)
- Interstitial deletions arise from 2 breaks, loss of the interstitial acentric segment & fusion at the break sites.
- Ring chromosomes arise from breaks on either side of the centromere & fusion at the breakpoints on the centric segment. Segments distal to the breaks are lost so that individuals with chromosome rings have deletions from both the long arm & short arm of the chromosome involved. May be denoted as for example 46,XX, r(15).

### **ii. Isochromosome formation**

- results when one arm of a chromosome is lost & the remaining arm is duplicated, resulting in a chromosome consisting of 2 short arms only or 2 long arms only. The arm on one side of the centromere is a mirror image of the other. E.g. i(X)(q10) results in monosomy of the genes on the short arm of X & trisomy of the genes on the long arm of X. (See Fig.9)

### **iii. Inversion**

- is reunion of a chromosome broken at 2 points, in which the internal segment is reinserted in an inverted position.
- are compatible with normal development.

#### iv. Translocation.

- is an exchange of chromosomal segments between 2 non-homologous chromosomes.
- is denoted by a “t” followed by the involved chromosomes in numerical order.

E.g. the translocation form of Down’s syndrome is designated as t(14q;21q).

- has 2 types (See Fig. 9):

##### a. Reciprocal (balanced translocation)

- is a break in 2 chromosomes leading to an exchange of chromosomal material between the two chromosomes. Since no genetic material is lost, balanced translocation is often clinically silent. But it can also cause disease as in the t(9,22) which causes chronic myelogenous leukaemia.

##### b. Robertsonian translocation

- is a variant in which the long arms of 2 acrocentric chromosomes are joined with a common centromere, & the short arms are lost.

Before going into the discussion of some of the chromosomal disorders, it is good to remember what mosaicism is.

#### Mosaicism

- is the presence of 2 or more cell lines with different karyotypes in a single individual. In a mosaic individual, a normal diploid cell commonly coexists with an abnormal cell line. The abnormal cell line may have a numerical or structural anomaly. A specific cell line may be represented in all tissues or may be confined to single or multiple tissues. The expression of the phenotype depends on the proportion & distribution of the abnormal cell line.
- is caused by mitotic errors in early development (i.e. in the fertilized ovum/embryo). (See above).



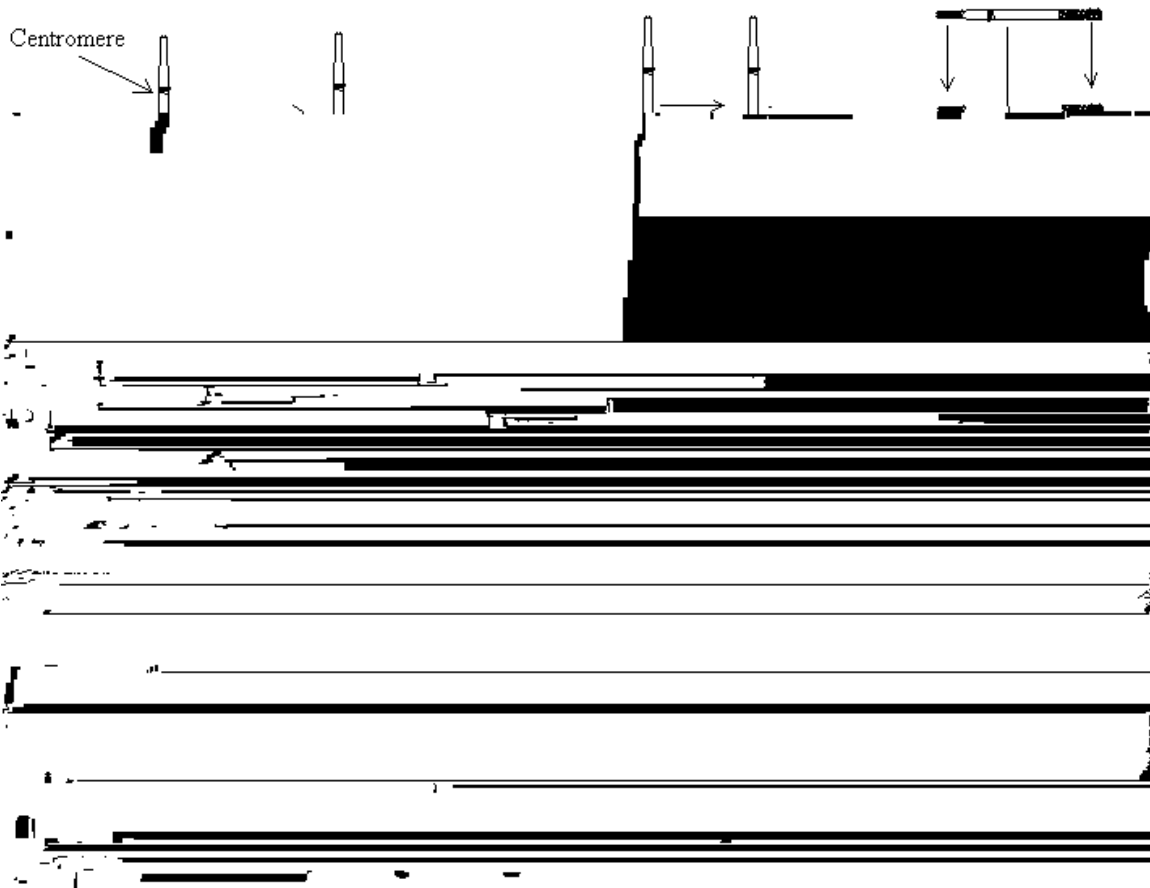


Fig. 6.10. Types of structural anomalies (structural rearrangements) of chromosomes.

### **C. Cytogenetic disorders involving autosomes**

- include:
  - o Down syndrome
  - o Edward syndrome
  - o Patau syndrome
  - o Chromosome 22q11 deletion syndrome

#### **Down syndrome**

- is the most frequent chromosomal disorder.

- is caused by:-

##### 1. Trisomy 21

- accounts for 95% of cases & its incidence increases with maternal age.
- is produced usually (i.e. in 95% of cases of trisomy) by maternal meiotic nondisjunction. When the cause is paternal nondisjunction, there is no relation to paternal age.

## 2. Translocation

- accounts for 4% of all cases of Down's syndrome.
- has no relation to maternal age.
- is caused by paternal meiotic robertsonian translocation between chromosome 21 & another chromosome. The fertilized ovum will have 3 chromosomes bearing the chromosome 21 material, the functional equivalent of trisomy 21.
- leads to a familial form of Down's syndrome, with a significant risk of the syndrome in subsequent children

## 3. Mosaicism

- accounts for 1% of cases.
- usually shows a mixture of cells with 46 & 47 chromosomes.
- results from mitotic nondisjunction of chromosome 21 during an early stage of embryogenesis.
- has milder symptoms depending on the proportion of the abnormal cells.
- is not influenced by maternal age.

## Down syndrome

- has the following clinical features:
  - o Severe mental retardation
  - o Broad (flat) nasal bridge & oblique palpebral fissure. Because of these features the old name of this disease is mongolism.
  - o Epicanthic folds
  - o Wide-spaced eyes
  - o Large protruding tongue
  - o Small low-set ears
  - o Brushfield's spots (small white spots in the periphery of the iris).
  - o Short broad hands with curvature of the 5<sup>th</sup> finger, simian crease (a single palmar crease)
  - o Unusually wide space between the 1<sup>st</sup> & the 2<sup>nd</sup> toes
  - o Congenital heart disease (in about 40% of the cases).
  - o A 10 – 20 fold increased risk of developing acute leukaemia.
  - o Increased susceptibility to infection
  - o In patients surviving to middle age, morphologic changes similar to Alzheimer's disease.

## **D. Cytogenetic disorders involving sex chromosomes**

The following subtopics will be discussed below:

1. General features
2. Klinefelter syndrome
3. Turner syndrome
4. Disorders of sexual differentiation

### **1. General features**

Sex chromosomal disorders have the following general features:

- a. They generally induce subtle, chronic problems relating to sexual development & fertility.





- also shows tall stature (because fusion of the epiphyses is delayed), & eunuchoid appearance with gynecomastia.
- is rarely associated with mental retardation, which is usually mild. The extent of retardation increases with increased number of X chromosomes.
- is usually undiagnosed before puberty.

### 3. Turner syndrome

- is a disorder that occurs when there is a complete or partial monosomy of the X chromosome.
- is associated with one of the following 3 types of karyotypic abnormalities:
  - o 45,X karyotype ( in which no Barr bodies are seen in the buccal smear)
  - o mosaics (45, X cell plus one or more karyotypically normal or abnormal cell types)
  - o structural abnormalities of the X chromosomes which result in partial monosomy of the X chromosome. E.g. deletion of one of the arms of the X chromosome.

This karyotypic heterogeneity associated with Turner's syndrome is responsible for significant variations in phenotype. E.g. 45, XO causes a severe phenotype whereas mosaics may have a normal appearance with only primary amenorrhea.

- is characterized by female hypogonadism & its secondary effects.
- shows:-
  - o Replacement of the ovaries by fibrous streaks .
  - o Decreased estrogen production & increased pituitary gonadotropins from loss of feedback inhibition.
  - o Infantile genitalia & poor breast development & little pubic hair.
  - o Short stature (rarely exceeding 150cm in height), webbed neck, shield-like chest with widely spaced nipples, & wide carrying angles of the arms.
  - o Lymphedema of the extremities & neck.
  - o Congenital heart disease (especially preductal coarctation of the aorta & bicuspid aortic valve).

### 4. Disorders of sexual differentiation (Sexual ambiguity)

- are said to be present when genetic sex, gonadal sex, or genital sex of an individual are discordant.

## **i. Definitions**

The sex of an individual can be defined on many levels:-

### **1. Genetic sex**

- is determined by the presence or absence of a Y chromosome. No matter how many X chromosomes are present, the presence of a single Y chromosome leads to testicular development & a genetic male. At least one Y chromosome is necessary & sufficient for male gender to manifest.

### **2. Gonadal sex**

- is determined by the presence of ovaries or testes. The gene responsible for the development of the testes is localized to the Y chromosome.

### **3. Ductal sex**

- depends on the presence of derivatives of the Mullerian or Wolffian ducts.

### **4. Phenotypic or genital sex**

- is based on the appearance of the external genitalia.

Sexual ambiguity is present whenever there is discordance among these various criteria for determining sex.

## **ii. True hermaphrodite**

- is very rare.
- has both ovaries & testicular tissue, with ambiguous external genitalia.
- may result from the fusion of 2 sperms (one X-carrying sperm & one Y-carrying sperm) with a binucleated ovum.

## **iii. Pseudohermaphrodite**

- shows discordance between the phenotypic sex & gonadal sex.
- i.e. has gonads of only one sex, but the appearance of the external genitalia does not correspond to the gonads present. Thus, a male pseudohermaphrodite has testicular tissue but female-type genitalia. A female pseudohermaphrodite has ovaries but male external genitalia (or the external genitalia are not clearly male).

## 1. Female pseudohermaphroditism

- is caused by exposure of the fetus to increased androgenic hormones during the early part of gestation as occurs in congenital adrenal hyperplasia, androgen-secreting ovarian or adrenal tumor in the mother, or hormones administered to the mother during pregnancy.

## 2. Male pseudohermaphroditism

- has a Y chromosome & only testes but the genital ducts or the external genitalia are either ambiguous or completely female.
- may be caused by tissue resistance to androgens (called testicular feminization), by defects in testosterone synthesis, or by estrogens administered to the mother during pregnancy.

## V. Disorders with multifactorial inheritance

- are more common than mendelian disorders.
- result from the combined actions of environmental factors & 2 or more mutant genes having additive effects (i.e. the greater the number of inherited mutant genes, the more severe the phenotypic expression of the disease). The disease clinically manifests only when the combined influences of the genes & the environment cross a certain threshold.
- include such common diseases as:-
  - o Diabetes mellitus,
  - o Hypertension,
  - o Ischemic heart disease,
  - o Gout,
  - o Schizophrenia,
  - o Bipolar disorders,
  - o Neural tube defects,
  - o Cleft lip/ cleft palate,
  - o Pyloric stenosis,
  - o Congenital heart disease, etc....

- are characterized by the following features:-

1. The risk of expressing a multifactorial disorder partly depends on the number of inherited mutant genes.

Hence, if a patient has more severe expression of the disease, then his relatives have a greater risk of expressing the disease (because they have a higher chance inheriting a



greater number of the mutant gene). In addition, the greater the number of affected relatives, the higher the risk for other relatives.

2. The risk of recurrence of the disorder is the same for all first degree relatives of the affected individual & this is in the range of 2-7%. First-degree relatives are parents, siblings, & offspring. Hence, if parents have had one affected child, then risk that the next child will be affected is between 2 & 7%. Similarly, there is the same chance that one of the parents will be affected.
3. The concordance rate for identical twins (i.e. the probability that both identical twins will be affected) is 20 – 40% but this is much greater than the concordance rate for non-identical twins.
4. The risk of recurrence of the phenotypic abnormality in subsequent pregnancies depends on the outcome in previous pregnancies. When one child is affected, the chance that the next child will be affected is 7%. When 2 children are affected, then the chance that the next child will be affected increases to 9%.

## VII. Single gene disorders with nonclassic inheritance

- are rare & are briefly mentioned here.
- can be classified into the following categories:
  - A. Diseases caused by mutations in mitochondrial genes.
    - E.g. Leber hereditary optic neuropathy
  - B. Diseases associated with genomic imprinting
    - E.g. Prader-Willi syndrome, Angelman syndrome.
  - C. Diseases associated with gonadal mosaicism

Gonadal mosaicism can explain unusual pedigrees seen in some autosomal dominant disorders such as osteogenesis imperfecta in which phenotypically normal parents have more than **one** affected children. This cannot be explained by new mutations. Instead, it can be explained by gonadal mosaicism
  - D. Disorders caused by triplet repeat mutations
    - E.g. **Fragile X syndrome**
- is the second most frequent cause of hereditary mental retardation next to Down syndrome.
- is clinically manifest in both males & females. In males, it is characterized by bilateral macro-orchidism (enlarged testes).

## VIII. Review Exercise

1. What is mutation? List the various types of mutations & discuss their effects by giving examples for each type.
2. What are the 4 major categories of genetic diseases?
3. Classify mendelian disorders based on their patterns of inheritance.
4. Explain the criteria, the pathogenesis, & give clinical examples for the 3 main mendelian patterns of inheritance.
5. Explain the general pathogenesis of mendelian disorders associated with enzyme defects.
6. Discuss the various types of numerical & structural chromosomal anomalies.
7. Describe meiotic & mitotic nondisjunction.
8. What is Down syndrome? Describe its causes & its clinical features.
9. What are the clinical consequences of X chromosome inactivation?
10. Describe the karyotypes & the clinical features of Turner syndrome. Hypofunction of which organ can explain these clinical features?
11. Describe the cause, the karyotypes, & the clinical features of Klinefelter syndrome. Hypofunction of which organ can explain these clinical features?
12. W/ro Almaz is pregnant for the second time. Her first child, Abebe has disease X. W/ro Almaz has 2 brothers, Tesfaye & Fantu, & a sister Desta. Fantu & Desta are unmarried. Tesfaye is married to an unrelated woman called Tenagne, & has a 2 year old daughter, Mimi. W/ro Almaz's parents are Ato Kebede & W/ro Beletech. Beletech's sister who is called W/ro Kelemuwa is the mother of W/ro Almaz's husband, Ato Worku, who is 25 years old. There is no previous family history of disease X.
  - a. Draw the pedigree using standard symbols.
  - b. What is the pattern of transmission of the of disease X, & what is the risk of disease X for W/ro Almaz's next child?
  - c. Which people in this pedigree

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# CHAPTER SEVEN

## IMMUNOPATHOLOGY

### I. Learning objectives

At the end of the chapter, the student is expected to:

1. Learn mechanisms and examples of hypersensitivity reaction
2. Understand etiologic factors in autoimmune diseases
3. Have bird's eye view concept on immunodeficiency states

Before reading this chapter, the student is advised to review his/her immunology text or lecture note.

**Disorders of the immune system are divided into three broad categories:**

1. Hypersensitivity reactions (immunologically mediated tissue injury)
2. Autoimmune diseases
3. Immunodeficiency diseases

We will discuss these categories sequentially.

### II. Hypersensitivity Reactions

The purpose of the immune response is to protect against invasion by foreign organisms, but they often lead to host tissue damage. An exaggerated immune response that results in tissue injury is broadly referred to as a hypersensitivity reaction.

#### **Classification:**

- a. According to Gell and Comb's classification, hypersensitivity reactions can be divided into four types (type I, II, III, and IV) depending on the mechanism of immune recognition involved and on the inflammatory mediator system recruited.
- b. Types – I, II, and III reactions are dependent on the interaction of specific antibodies with the given antigen, whereas, in type IV reactions recognition is achieved by antigen receptors on T-cells.

## 1) Type I hypersensitivity (anaphylactic or immediate type) reaction

Definition:



- Thus, type I reactions have two well-defined phases.
  - a. **Initial phase (response):**
    - Ø Characterized by vasodilatation, vascular leakage, and depending on the location, smooth muscle spasm or glandular secretions.
  - b. **Late phase**
    - Ø As it is manifested for example in allergic rhinitis and bronchial asthma, more intense infiltration of eosinophiles, neutrophils, basophilic, monocytes and CD4 + T cells are encountered and so does tissue destruction (epithelial mucosal cells).
    - Ø Mast cells and basophiles are central to the development of Type I reaction. Mast cells are bone marrow driven cells widely distributed in tissues around blood vessels, and sub epithelial sites where type I reaction occurs.

#### **Morphology:**

- Ø Histamine and leukotriens are released rapidly from sensitized mast cells and are responsible for intense immediate reaction characterized by edema, mucous secretions and smooth muscles spasms.
- Ø Others exemplified by leukotriens platelet activating factor (PAF), TNF- $\alpha$  and cytokines are responsible for the late phase response by recruiting additional leukocytes, basophilic neutrophils and eosinophiles. These cells secrete other waves of mediators and thus, damage epithelial cells.
- Ø Eosinophiles are particularly important in the late phase. The armamentarium of eosinophiles is as extensive as the mast cells.
- Ø Prototype example of Morphologic features in type I reactions is exemplified by bronchial asthma with
  - Increased mucous glands with resultant mucous secretion
  - Hypertrophy of bronchial smooth muscles with attending bronchoconstriction
  - Edema formations with inflammatory cells infiltrations peribronchially

#### **2) Type II hypersensitivity reaction**

**Definition:** Type II hypersensitivity is mediated by antibodies directed towards antigens present on the surface of exogenous antigens.

Three different antibody-dependent mechanisms are involved in this type of reaction







### c. Inflammatory reaction

Ø After immune complexes are deposited in tissues acute inflammatory reactions ensue and the damage is similar despite the nature and location of tissues. Due to this inflammatory phase two mechanisms operate

i) Activation of complement cascades:

- C-3b, the opsonizing, and -C-5 fragments, the chemotaxins are characterized by neutrophilic aggregation, phagocytosis of complexes and release of lysosomal enzymes that result in necrosis.-C3a, C5a – anaphylatoxins contribute to vascular permeability and contraction of smooth muscles that result in vasodilation and edema-C5-9 – membrane attack complexes formation leads to cell lysis (necrosis)

circulation / with antibody excess/ that resulted in immune complex deposition. Inflammatory reaction develops over 4-8 hours and may progress to tissue necrosis as described above.

- Ø **Chronic forms of systemic immune complex diseases** result from repeated or prolonged exposure of an antigen. Continuous antigen is necessary for the development of chronic immune complex disease. Excess ones are most likely to be deposited in vascular beds.

#### **Clinical examples of systemic immune complex diseases:**

- Various types of glomerulonephritis
- Rheumatic fever
- Various vasculitides
- Quartan nephropathy
- Systemic lupus erythematosus
- Rheumatoid arthritis

#### **4) Type IV hypersensitivity (Cell-mediated) reaction**

**Definition:** The cell-mediated type of hypersensitivity is initiated by specifically sensitized T-lymphocytes. It includes the classic delayed type hypersensitivity reactions initiated by CD4+Tcell and direct cell cytotoxicity mediated by CD8+Tcell. Typical variety of intracellular microbial agents including M. tuberculosis and so many viruses, fungi, as well as contact dermatitis and graft rejection are examples of type IV reactions

#### **The two forms of type IV hypersensitivity are:**

1. **Delayed type hypersensitivity:** this is typically seen in tuberculin reaction, which is produced by the intra-cutaneous injection of tuberculin, a protein lipopolysaccharide component of the tubercle bacilli.

#### **Steps involved in type IV reaction include**

- a. First the individual is exposed to an antigen for example to the tubercle bacilli where surface monocytes or epidermal dendritic (Langhane's) cells engulf the bacilli and present it to naïve CD4+ T-cells through MHC type II antigens found on surfaces of antigen presenting cells (APC),
- b. The initial macrophage (APC) and lymphocytes interactions result in differentiation of CD4+TH type one cells



b). Co-stimulatory signals such as CD 28 must bind to their ligand called B7-1 and B7-2 on antigen presenting cells (APC) and if the Ag is presented by cell that do not bear CD 28 ligand /i.e B7-1 or B7-2/ a negative signal is delivered and the cell becomes anergic.

**iii). Peripheral suppression by T- cell suppressor.**

- There are some evidence that peripheral suppression of autoreactivity may be



## 2. Immunologic:

### Ø Failure of peripheral tolerance: Breakdown of T-cell anergy

T-cell anergy may be broken if the APC can be induced to express co-stimulatory



APCs and the (beta) **B**. chains of the T-cell receptor (TCR) outside the antigen – binding groove. Because they stimulate all T-cells they are called superantigens)

### **Release of sequestered antigens**

- Ø Regardless of the exact mechanism by which self-tolerance is achieved (clonal deletion or anergy), it is clear that induction of tolerance requires interaction between the antigen and the immune system. Thus, any self-antigen that is completely sequestered during development is likely to be viewed as foreign if introduced into



- Polyarteritis Nodosa
- Sojourn's syndrome

Here, only SLE (a prototype of autoimmune diseases) is given as an illustration.



ii) Autoantibodies present with reactivity to DNA, RNA, or phospholipids thus, antinuclear anti bodies (ANA) are the ones that are directed against several nuclear antigen grouped into four categories

1. Antibodies to DNA
2. Antibodies to histone
3. Antibodies to non-histone proteins bound to RNA
4. Antibodies to nucleolar antigens

Ø ANAs is virtually positive in every patient with SLE i.e sensitive but it is not specific (other autoimmunity positivity). Regardless of the exact sequence by which autoantibodies are formed, they are clearly the mediators of tissue injury. Type III hypersensitivity reaction is responsible for most visceral lesions. DNA – anti – DNA complexes can be detected in the glomeruli and small blood vessels. Autoantibodies against red cells, white cells and platelets mediate their effects via type II hypersensitivity.

Ø In tissues, nuclei of damaged cells react with ANAs, lose their chromatin pattern, and become homogenous to produce so – called lupus erythematosus (LE) bodies or hematoxylin bodies. Related to this phenomenon is the LE cell, which is readily seen, in vitro. Basically, the LE cell may phagocyte leukocytes (neutrophils or macrophages) that has engulfed the denatured nucleus of an injured cell.

Serum complement levels often decreased due to immune mediated complement consumption

It is mostly IgG type, lesser extent of the IgM type

### **Clinicopathologic features**

- Ø Typically the patients young woman with a butterfly rash over the face
- Ø Generally the course of the disease is variable and almost unpredictable
- Ø ANAs can be found in virtually 100% of patients but, not specific
- Ø The detection of antibodies against double stranded DNA and Sm antigen are virtually diagnostic of SLE

Ø Chronic discoid lupus erythematosus is a dermatosis of a 0.03% prevalence in the general population. It is characterized by the presence of raised, red, scaly patches on the skin, which are often accompanied by hair loss and scarring. The lesions are typically found on the face, scalp, and other sun-exposed areas. The disease is chronic and recurrent, and it can lead to permanent damage to the skin and other organs. The pathogenesis is not fully understood, but it is thought to be related to an autoimmune response. Treatment typically involves the use of topical corticosteroids and antimalarial drugs. In severe cases, systemic corticosteroids may be required. The prognosis is generally good, but the disease can be persistent and may require long-term management.

3/4



- Ø A person is said to have SLE in any four or more of the criteria are present serially or simultaneously.
- Ø Morphologic changes in SLE are also extremely variable. The most characteristic lesions result from the deposition of immune complexes found in the blood vessels, kidneys, connective tissue and skin. Acute necrotizing vasculitis of small arteries and arterioles is characterized by fibrinoid necrosis.
- Ø Kidney: 60 – 70% involvement by SLE. Anti-dsDNA (60-90% associated with nephritis)
  - WHO morphologic classification of the renal lesions of SLE:
    - Class I Normal light etc microscopy
    - II Mesengial glomerulonephritis
    - III focal proliferative glomerulonephritis
    - IV diffuse proliferative glomerulonephritis
    - V membranous glomerulonephritis
- Ø Skin: Acute lesions “butterfly” rash (50%) where histology shows liqfactive degeneration of the basal layer of the epidermis. Sunlight exposure incites or accentuates the erythema. Chronic lesion: Descoid ( plaques with scales, scarring with central atrophy)
- Ø Joints: Arthralgia or non erosive synovitis (unlike rheumatoid arthritis) with little deformity
- Ø CNS: Neuropsychatric manifestations including seizures, (focal or generalized), psychosis and organic brain syndrome.
- Ø Serositis -

## V. Immunodeficiency Diseases

The term immunodeficiency covers a group of disorders of specific immune responses, neutrophil, macrophage and natural killer cells functions, as well as defects in the complement system that lead to impaired resistance to microbial infections.

**Classification** – These diseases are crudely classified into primary and secondary types.

### 1) Primary immunodeficiency diseases (exceedingly rare)

- ∅ These disorders usually manifest in early childhood and are almost always genetically determined. Though, some overlap exists primary immunodeficiency diseases are further divided into:

#### Deficiencies of antibody (B – cells) immunity.

Eg. Infantile X-linked agammaglobulinemia

Transient hypogammaglobulinemia of infancy

#### Deficiencies of cell mediated (T-cell) Immunity

T-cell deficiencies are difficult to trace as T-cells affects B – cell functions

Eg. Di George's syndrome:

#### Combined T-cell and B-cell deficiencies

Eg Severe combined immunodeficiency disease (SCID).

### 2) Secondary immunodeficiencies States

These immunodeficiency states may be acquired secondary to various disease processes or drug effects

#### ∅ Protein deficiency

Lack of protein leads to cell mediated immunity and hypocomplementemia

#### ∅ Hematologic malignancies

Leukemia and lymphomas where normal functioning cell replaced by neoplastic ones here both humeral and cell mediated immunity are impaired

#### ∅ Acute viral infection

Especially infectious mononucleosis and mumps cause temporary impairment of cell-mediated immunity

#### ∅ Chronic renal failure

Probably due to toxic effects of accumulated metabolites that affects both B and T-cell functions

Ø **Iatrogenic**

Steroids etc for organ transplants, cytotoxic drugs or radiotherapy for the treatment of malignancies.

Ø **Splenectomy**

After staging operations of lymphomas or traumatic spleen rupture

Splenectomy leads to a characteristic immunodeficiency in which the patient is susceptible to infections by phylogenetic bacteria especially pneumococcal pneumonia.

Ø



- Age of earlier sexual contact where the very young female genital linings are vulnerable to easy lacerations.

**Modes of transmission:**

- Ø **Sexual activities**



### The viral core consists of two protein shells

- ∅ The outer contains the core protein P 18 and the inner core protein P 24. The lipid bilayer consists of the viral glycoprotein gp 41 while gp 120 protrudes into the environment. The RNA genome and the reverse transcriptase are contained within the inner shell.

HIV – 1 proviral genome contains 3 genes -Gag – capsid protein P<sup>24</sup>, matrix protein P<sup>17</sup>, nucleocapsid protein P<sup>7/9</sup>

- Pol - reverse transcriptase, protease integrase, ribonuclease

- Env – gp<sup>120</sup> and gp<sup>41</sup>

In addition to these standard genes, the HIV contains other genes including

TAT- Potent transactivator of viral transcription

NEF- Essential for viral replication

REV- regulator of structural gene expression

VIF- Requires for maturation of HIV virus and if also promotes infectivity of cell free virus

VEF- essential for efficient viral replication

VPU- Required for efficient virion budding

VPR Required for viral replication in non-dividing cells and causing viral replication by causing arrest of cycling cells in G<sub>2</sub>

- ∅ On the basis of genetic analysis HIV- I can be divided into two groups designated as M (major) and O (outliers). Group M viruses are the most common viruses worldwide and subdivided into several subtypes or clades designated A -J.

- ∅ The HIV strains can be classified into two groups based on their absolute to infect macrophage and CD4 + T-cells. Macrophage tropic (M-tropic) strains can infect both monocytes/ macrophages and freshly isolated peripheral blood T-cells. T Tropic strains can infect only T- cells both freshly isolated and retained in culture. M – tropic strains use CCR5 co receptors whereas T – Tropic strains bind to CXCR4 co receptors. Ninety percent (90%) of HIV is transmitted by M – tropic strains, however over the course of infection T – Tropic **viruses** gradually accumulate and these are virulent and cause final rapid phase of the disease progression.

### Pathogenesis:

- ∅ Targets of HIV infections are: The immune system and Central nervous system
- ∅ Target cells are those having CD4 receptors include  
CD4 + T helper cells

Monocytes /macrophages

Tissue cells such as dendritic cells present in genital tracts and anorectal region

Certain brain cells (glial cells)

Some other cells as well

- Ø CD<sub>4</sub> - Receptor molecule is a high affinity receptor for HIV. This explains for the selective tropism of the virus to aforementioned cells.
- Ø Initial binding of gp 120 to CD4 molecule leads to conformational change for the new recognition site on gp120 for the co receptors CCR5 or CXCR4.
- Ø The second conformational change in gp41 results in insertion of a fusion peptide into the cell membrane of the target T-cells or macrophages.
- Ø -After fusion, the viral core containing the HIV genome enters the cytoplasm of the cell (internalization).

The life cycle of HIV virus after internalization, include

- Ø **DNA Synthesis-** the uncoated viral RNA is copied into double stranded DNA by reverse transcriptase
- Ø **Viral integration-**the DNA derived from the viruses is integrated into host genome by the viral integrate enzyme, thereby producing the latest proviral form of HIV-I.
- Ø **Viral replication-** viral RNA is reproduced by transcriptional activation of the integrated HIV provirus
- Ø **Viral dissemination-** to complete the life cycle, nascent viruses assembled in the cytoplasm and disseminate to other target cells after directly lysing the cell (direct cytopathic effect of the virus).
- Ø The HIV virus after internalization assumes two forms of infectivity such as latent infection and productive infections. In latent infections, the virus may be lacked in the cytoplasm (preintegration latency) or after being integrated into host DNA (Post integration latency). Hereafter the highlight of HIV productive infection is surfaced.
- This productive infection is predominantly occur in lymphoid tissues, within macrophages, dendritic cells and CD4+T CELLS.
- Viremia after 8 weeks of infection supervene
- Viremia is subsequently cleared by the development of an anti viral immune response effected by CD8+cytotoxic T cells
- This results in transient decrease in CD4+T cells and an apparent rise in CD8+T cells

- As viremia declines, the HIV disseminates into lymphoid tissues and undergoes clinical latency but not viral latency
- Finally the ebbs and flows of the CD4+T cells count with variable time results in AIDS.

### **Mechanisms of CD<sub>4</sub> + T cell loss (quantitative defects):**

- ∅ Loss of immature precursors of CD<sub>4</sub> + T cells by direct infection of thymic progenitor cells or by infection of accessory cells that secrete cytokines essential for CD<sub>4</sub> + cells differentiation.
- ∅ Fusions of infected & uninfected cells with formation of syncytia (giant cells) develop ballooning and these cells usually die in few hours.
- ∅ Apoptosis of uninfected CD<sub>4</sub> + T cells by binding of soluble gp120 to CD<sub>4</sub> molecule.

### **Qualitative defects on other immune cells as a result of CD4+T helper/ inducer cells loss:**

#### **1. Defects of CD<sub>4</sub> + T cells:**

Reduced antigen induced T – Cell proliferation

- Imbalance between the T-helper 1 (TH<sub>1</sub>) and TH<sub>2</sub> responses favour humoral immune responses over cell mediated immunity
- Decreased lymphokine secretion

T-cell anergy (dysfunction) can also result from the binding of gp120 Ag-Ab complexes to CD<sub>4</sub> molecules impairing the antigen presentation by anti -gp 120 antibodies that cross-react with and bind to class II HLA molecule on antigen presenting cells.

Anergy also result from binding of HIV derived suferantigen to B-chains of T-cell receptors.

#### **2. Defects of monocytes / macrophages**

These cells are extremely important in the pathogenesis of HIV infection. Similar to T cells majority infected cells are found in tissues not in peripheral blood. A relatively high productive infection of macrophages (10 to 15%) is detected in certain tissues such as Brain and lungs.

##### 1) Several aspects of HIV infection of macrophages include

Hiv-1 can also infect and multiply in terminally differentiated non- dividing macrophages. This property of HIV-1 is dependant on HIV-1 VPR gene. The VPR protein allows nuclear targeting of the HIV pre integration complex through the nuclear pore.

##### 2) Infected macrophages bud relatively small amounts of virus from the cell surface, however, they are quite resistant to the cytopathic effects of HIV.



3) Macrophages in all likelihood act as gatekeepers of infections. More than 90 % of HIV infection is transmitted by M- trophic strains. It has been suggested that macrophages or dendritic cells may be important in the pathogenesis of HIV diseases.

Thus, HIV infection of macrophages has three important implications.

- I) Monocytes and macrophages represent a veritable virus factory and reservoir whose output remains largely protected from host defences.
- II) Second macrophages provide a safe vehicle for HIV transport to various parts of the body particularly to the central nervous system.
- III) In the late stages of HIV, infection when the CD4+T cells numbers decline greatly, macrophages may be the major sites of continued viral replication.

The following are some of the qualitative changes seen in macrophages -Poor capacity of present antigens to T-cells – (most important one)

- Macrophages are quite resistant to cytopathic effects of the HIV
- impaired microbicidal activity,
- decreased chemotaxis
- Decreased secretion of IL-1
- Increased spontaneous secretion of IL-1, TNF -  $\alpha$ , IL - 6.

### 3. B-lymphocyte dysfunctions

- Hypergammaglobinemia and circulating immune complexes
- Inability to mount do novo antibody response to a new antigen
- Decreased immunoglobulin production in response to new antigen

### 4. Defects of natural killer cells

- Decreased killing of tumour cells
- CD8 + cytotoxic T-cells: decreased specific cytotoxicity, thus, delayed cell mediated immunity

### How a latent HIV infection is transformed into productive infection?

- Ø Antigen or mutagen-induced activation of T-cells is associated with transcription of genes encoding the cytokine IL-2 and its receptor (IL-2R) and after some steps induction of nuclear factor-  $\kappa$ B (NF-  $\kappa$ B) activates the transcription of HIV provirus DNA and leads ultimately to the production of virions and to cell lysis.

Ø





The decline in HIV viral load usually coincides with the time of sero-conversion and the primary or early HIV infection. Acute phase occurs 4 – 8 weeks after acquiring the virus. There may be a short (1 – 2 weeks) seroconversion illness which causes the following in about 50-70% individuals: fever, rash, sore throat, muscle and joint pain and some lymph node swelling. The level of viral load in early acute phase of the disease is called the set point and anti-retroviral therapy can reduce this set point thus, early detection especially in cases of needle stick injuries, rape and other known risky exercises can benefit from it.

## II. The middle chronic phase

Relative containment of the viruses with a period of clinical latency (not viral latency). Patients develop asymptomatic infections. Persistent generalized lymphadenopathy (PGL) develops and PGL is defined as palpable lymphadenopathy at two or more extra-inguinal sites, persisting for more than 3 months in persons infected with HIV. Minor

- Groups of patients with the middle chronic phase is telescoped to 2-3 years after primary infection

### Phases of HIV infections and corresponding CDC classification categories

Phase	CDC categories
Early acute	Group1 acute infection
Middle, chronic	group2 asymptomatic infection
Group3 PGL	
Final, crisis	Group4
	Subgroup A-constitutional diseases
	Subgroup B-neurological Diseases
	Subgroup C-Secondary infections
	Subgroup D-Secondary neoplasms
	Subgroup E-other Conditions

CDC=Center for Disease Control

### The relationship between the immune status, the CD4+ T cell count, the lymphocyte count, and the presence of symptomatic disease:

Clinical condition	Cd4+T cells/m	lymphocytes counts/mm3
Well with no symptoms	More than 500-600 cells/mm3	More than 2500
Minor symptoms	350-500cells/mm3	1000- 2500
Major symptoms and opportunistic diseases	200-300cells/mm3	500-1000
AIDS	Less than 200cells/mm3	Less than 500

## VI. Exercises

1. Discuss the pathogenic mechanisms of each type of hypersensitivity reaction with examples.
2. Elaborate the mechanisms of autoimmune diseases
3. Discuss SLE.
4. List out conditions that lower immune resistance
5. Discuss the entry, the life cycle and genetic components of HIV virus
6. Elaborate the natural history of HIV infection and AIDS after internalization

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# CHAPTER EIGHT

## SELECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

### I. Learning objectives:

At the end of this chapter, the student is expected to:

Explain the etiology, pathogenesis, morphologic, & some clinical features of typhoid fever, tuberculosis, leprosy, syphilis, malaria, leishmaniasis, schistosomiasis, & selected fungal.

### II. Typhoid Fever

**Definition:** Typhoid fever is an acute enteric disease caused by an obligate intracellular bacillus called *Salmonella Typhi* and this bacillus resides within mononuclear phagocytic cells of lymphoid tissues. The disease is unique humans and it is characterized by fever,

Ø The main pathological changes are found in the gastrointestinal tract particularly The Payer's patches, which are the sub mucosal lymphoid follicles in this tract. This invasion arises from the gall bladder. Payer's patches may show

- § Hyperplasia in first week
- § Necrosis in second week
- § Ulceration in third week
- § Healing in fourth week

Ø Typhoid ulcers are oval and are situated longitudinally along the long axis of the colon, which are in contra -distinction of tuberculous ulcers that are set transversally.

#### **Diagnosis:**

- § Leukopenia 3000-4000/mm<sup>3</sup>
- § Blood culture - 1<sup>st</sup> week (70-90%)
- § Fecal culture - 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> week best (75%)
- § Urine culture - 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> week
- § Serology 2<sup>nd</sup> week

#### **Clinical course:**

Typhoid fever is a protracted disease that is associated with

- § Bacteremia, fever and chills during the first week
- § Widespread reticuloendothelial involvement with rash, abdominal pain and prostration in the second week and
- § Ulceration of payer's patches with intestinal bleeding and shock during the third week

#### **Complications may include:**

- § Intestinal perforation: 3 – 4% and it is responsible to 25% of the death
- § Intestinal hemorrhage: 8% and usually seen between 14-21 days of illness
- § Acute cholecystitis, etc

### **III. Acute Osteomyelitis**

**Definition:** It is an inflammation of the bone and marrow (osteo- means bone and myelo – marrow), commonly in children and adolescents

Route: Hematogenous spread – most common in long and vertebral bones extension from contagious site- otitis media, dental caries

Direct implantation-compound fracture,

**Etiology:**

- Ø All types of organisms possible; however, pyogenic organisms most notably Staphylococcus aureus represent 80 - 90% of pyogenic osteomyelitis. Others include pseudomonas, Klebsiella, Salmonella in sickle cell anemic patients.

**Sites:**

- Ø Any bone may be affected but the metaphysics of long bones (distal femur, proximal tibia and humerus) adjacent to actively growing epiphyses and the vertebral column are most often involved.

**Pathogenesis:**

- Ø The location of the lesions within specific bones is influenced by the vascular circulation, which varies with age. In the neonate, the metaphysical vessels penetrate the growth plate resulting in frequent infection of the metaphysis, epiphysis or both.
- Ø In children, localization of microorganisms in the metaphysics is typical.
- Ø In adults, the epiphyscal growth plate is closed and the metaphysical vessels reunite with their epiphyses counterparts, which provide a route for bacteria to seed in the epiphysis and subchondral regions.
- Ø The susceptibility of the metaphysis to acute osteomyelitis is in part, explained by the dilated vascularature of the marrow spaces where sluggish blood flow provides an ideal site for multiplication of bacteria.
- Ø Then acute inflammatory response with exudation follows with venous and arterial thrombosis. These reaction increases intravenous pressure with a resultant bone necrosis. Infection spreads rapidly through marrow spaces which perpetuates the Haversian systems of the metaphysical cortex, elevates the periosteum and forms a subperiosteal abscess in children and adolescents as opposed to adults periosteum that is adherent to the bone.
- Ø Accession of both peri-osteal and endo-osteal vessels lead to segmental bone necrosis of some or all of the diaphysis, the portion of dead bone is known as a **sequestrum**. Small sequestra especially in children tend to be completely absorbed by osteoclastic activity. Large sequestra form a nidus for episodes of infection. In the presence of a sequestrum, the periosteal reactive woven or laminar bone may be deposited as a



sleeve of living tissue known as **involcrum**, around the segment of devitalized bone (sequestrum). The involcrum around sequestrum is usually irregular and perforated.

- Ø In infants, acute osteomyelitis may complicate acute arthritis through infrequent it also occurs in adults. The picture is different in children.
- Ø The patient complains of fever, sever pain and tenderness aggravated by any movement, ESR elevated, leukocytosis
- Ø Complications include septicemia, septic arthritis, alteration in growth rate, chronic osteomyelitis

#### **IV. Tuberculosis**

Tuberculosis is a prototype example of granulomatous inflammation.

Tuberculosis infects one third of world populations and kills about three million people yearly and it is the single most important infectious disease.

4. *M. Tuberculosis* **heat shock protein** is similar to human heat shock protein and may have a role in autoimmune reactions induced by *M. tuberculosis*.

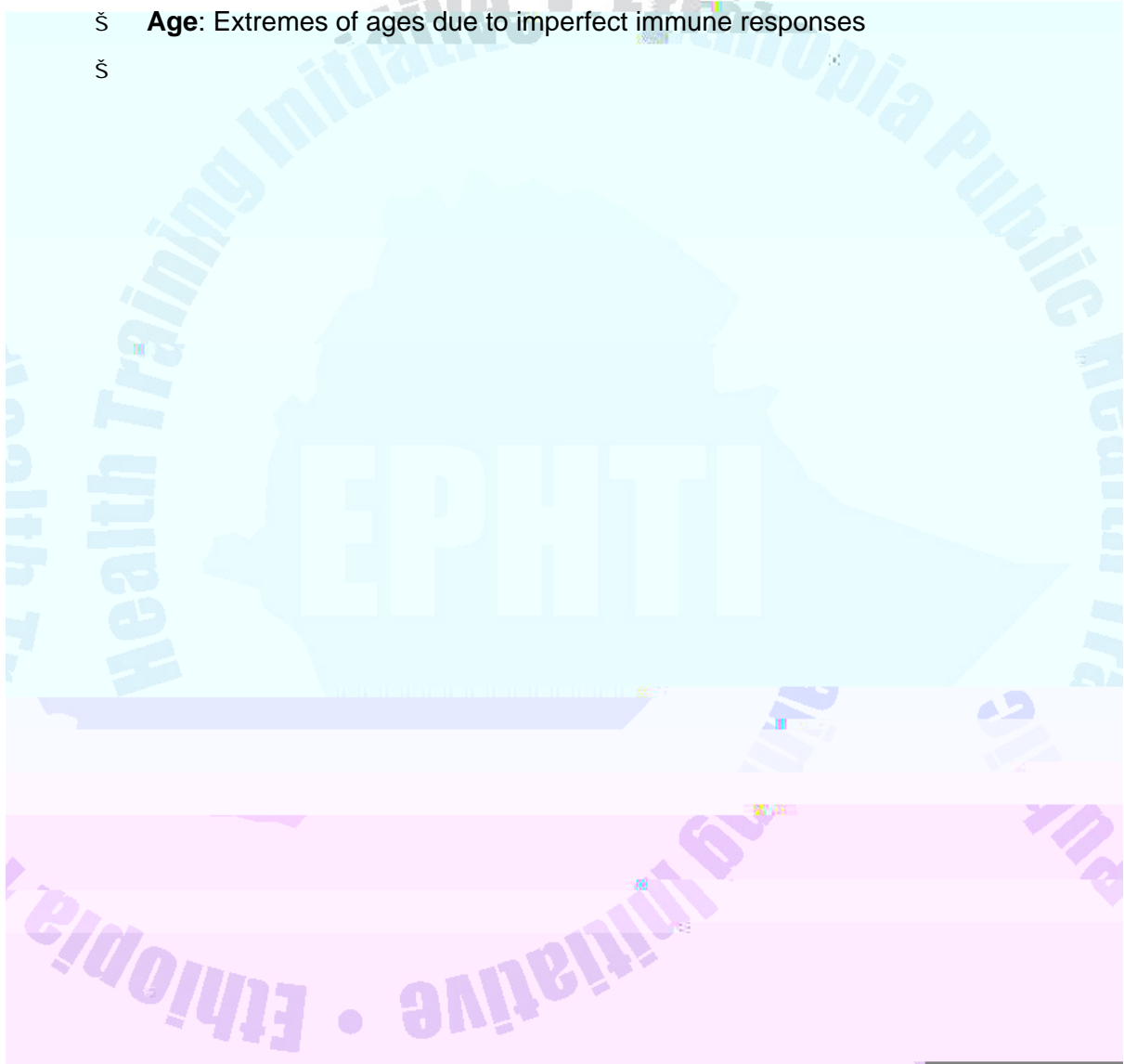
The bacillus resides in phagosome, which are not acidified in lysosomes. Inhibition of acidification has been associated with urase secreted by the mycobacteria.

Who are those more susceptible to develop tuberculosis?

§ **Race:** North American Indians, black Africans and Asians are much more susceptible than others

§ **Age:** Extremes of ages due to imperfect immune responses

§



Hence, fate of primary complex include

- i). T-cell mediated immune response induces hypersensitivity to the organisms and controls 95% of primary infection. This is associated with progressive fibrosis and calcification of persistent caseous debris. Moreover, most bacilli die but few remain viable for years until the person's immune response fails.

However, if the infected person is immunologically immature, as in a young child or immunocompromized (eg. AIDS patients) the course of this primary infection is quite different. Such persons lack the capacity to coordinate integrated hypersensitivity and cell-mediated immune responses to the organism and thus often lack the capacity to contain the infection. Granulomas are poorly formed or not formed at all, and infection progresses at the primary site in the lung, the regional lymph nodes or at multiple sites of disseminations. This process produces progressive primary tuberculosis.

- ii. Progressive **primary tuberculous pneumonia**: commonly seen in children less than five years of age but it occurs in adults as well in those with suppressed or defective immunity.
- iii. **Subpleural focus** may discharge bacilli or antigen into the pleural cavity resulting in the development of pleural effusion. It is common in adolescent infected with M. tuberculosis for the first time.

**Hilar or mediastinal groups of lymph nodes enlargement** with caseous necrosis that may result in:

- a. Obstruction of the bronchus by the enlarged lymph nodes leading to lobar collapse.
- b. The caseous hilar lymph node may penetrate the bronchial wall and resulting in rupture of the wall with pouring of caseous materials into the bronchus hence, tuberculosis broncho-pneumonia ensues.
- iv. The caseous materials may be disseminated to other parts of the body via blood streams.

### **Miliary tuberculosis**

It refers to disseminated sites that produce multiple, small yellow nodular lesions in several organs. The term miliary emphasizes the resemblance of the lesion to millet seeds. The lungs, lymph nodes, kidneys, adrenals, bone marrow, spleen, meninges and liver are common sites for miliary lesions.





## V. Leprosy

**Definiton:** Leprosy or Hansen disease is a slowly progressive infection caused by *Mycobacterium leprae* affecting the skin and peripheral nerves and resulting mainly in deformity, paralysis and ulceration. Though *M. leprae* is in most part contained in the skin, the disease is believed to be transmitted from person to person through aerosols from lesions in upper respiratory tract.

### **Pathogenesis:**

Ø The bacillus is acid fast, obligate intracellular organism that does not grow in culture and it grows best at 32-34 °C of the temperature of human skin.

Ø Like *M. tuberculosis*, *M leprae* secretes no toxins but its virulence is based on properties of its cell wall. The bacilli thus produce either potentially destructive granulomas or by interference with the metabolism of cells. The bacilli are taken by alveolar macrophages; disseminate through the blood but grows only in relatively cool tissues of the skin and extremities.

Ø Classification based on host immune responses. Leprosy is a bipolar disease. Two forms of the disease occur depending on whether the host mounts a T-cell mediated immune response (tuberculoid leprosy) or the host is anergic (lepromatous leprosy). The polar forms are relatively stable but the borderline forms (border line-tuberculoid, borderline-borderline, and borderline-lepromatous) are unstable without treatment. It may usually deteriorate to lepromatous leprosy. Patients with tuberculoid leprosy formt009 Tcisu(stab

Ø Because of the diffuse parasite filled lesions lepromatous leprosy is more infectious than those with tuberculoid leprosy.

Table: **Differences between tuberculoid and lepromatous leprosy**

<u>Tuberculoid leprosy</u>	<u>Lepromatous leprosy</u>
Epitheoid granuloma without giant cell	Active macrophages, with every many bacilli (globi)
Dense zone of lymphocyte infiltration around granuloma	Scanty and diffuse
Nerves destroyed by granulomas	May show neuronal damage but not infiltration or cuffing
No clear sub-epidermal zone	Clear sub-epidermal zone
Bacilli in granuloma are not seen	Numerous bacilli 5+ or 6+
Few macules + plaques with well defined edges	Macules, papules, plaques and nodules present with vague edges
Lesions distributed asymmetrically	Lesions distributed symmetrically
hair loss	no hair loss
Lesions are anesthetic	Lesions are not anesthetic
Nerve thickening often singly and early	Nerve thickening is symmetrical and late (stocking & glove patterns)
First manifestation may be neural	First manifestation never neuronal
Lepromin test is strongly positive	Lepromin test is negative

### **Clinical course and complications**

Ø Lepromatous leprosy involves primarily the shin, peripheral nerves, anterior eye, upper airways (down to larynx), testis, hands and feet. The vital organs and the central nervous system are rarely affected presumably because the core temperature is too high for the growth of *M. leprae*.

## **VI. Syphilis**

**Definition:** Syphilis is a systemic infection caused by the spirochete *Treponema pallidum*, which is transmitted mainly by direct sexual intercourse (venereal syphilis) and less commonly via placenta (congenital syphilis) or by accidental inoculation from the infectious materials.

- Ø *T. Pallidum* spirochetes cannot be cultured but are detected by silver stains, dark field examination and immunofluorescence technique.

### **Pathogenesis:**

- Ø The organism is delicate and susceptible to drying and does not survive long outside the body.
- Ø The organism invades mucosa directly possibly aided by surface abrasions following intercourse with an infected person, a primary lesion, an ulcer known as the chancre, develops at the site of infection usually the external genitalia but also lips and anorectal region. Within hours, the *T. pallidum* pass to regional lymph nodes and gain access to systemic circulations. Thereafter, the disease is unpredictable. Its incubation period is about 3 weeks.
- Ø Whatever the stage of the disease and location of the lesions the histologic hallmarks of syphilis are
  - A. Obliterative endarteritis
  - B. Plasma cell rich mononuclear cell infiltrates.
- Ø The endarteritis is secondary to the binding of spirochetes to endothelial cells mediated by fibronectin molecules bound to the surface of the spirochetes. The mononuclear infiltrates are immunologic response.
- Ø Host humeral and cellular immune responses may prevent the formation of chancre on subsequent infections with *T. pallidum* but are insufficient to clear the spirochetes.

### **Morphology:** Syphilis is classified into three stages

#### Primary syphilis (chancre):

- Ø Chancre appears as a hard, erythematous, firm; painless slightly elevated papule on nodule with regional lymph nodes enlargements. Common sites are Prepuce / scrotum in men-70%, Vulva or cervix in females -50%
- Ø The chancre may last 3-12 weeks. Patients with primary syphilis who stayed for more than two week cannot be reinfected by a challenge.

#### **Secondary syphilis:**

- Ø Almost any organ is involved (great mimickery). Widespread mucocutaneous lesions involving the oral cavity, palms of the hands and soles of the feet characterize it.
- Ø There are also generalized lymphadenopathies mucosal patches (snail track ulcers) on the pharynx and genitalia, which is highly infectious.



- Ø Condylomata lata: - which is papular lesions in moist areas such as axillae, perineum, vulva and scrotum, which are stuffed with abundant spirochetes.
- Ø Follicular syphilitidis: - Small papular lesion around hair follicles that cause loss of hair.
- Nummular syphilitidis:- It is coin-like lesions involving the face and perineum
- Ø Generalized lymphadenopathy and the uncommon swelling of epitrochlear lymph nodes have long been associated with syphilis.
- Ø Though, asymptomatic, if untreated, secondary syphilis can relapse (latent syphilis) and more episodes of relapses may show a more granulomatous histology in skin lesions and progress to the next stage.

### **Tertiary syphilis:**

The three basic forms of tertiary syphilis are:

**1. Syphilitic gummas** - there are grey white rubbery masses of variable sizes. They occur in most organs but in skin, subcutaneous tissue, bone, Joints and testis. In the liver, scarring as a result of gummas may cause a distinctive hepatic lesion known as hepar lobatum.

- Collapse of the bridge of the nose and palate can occur with perforation
- Osteitis and periosteitis may lead to thickening and deformity of long bones such as the sabre tibia
- Histologically, gummas look like a central coagulative necrosis characterized by peripheral granulomatous responses. The Trepanosomas are scanty in these gummas and difficult to demonstrate.

### **2. Cardiovascular syphilis**

- Ø This is most common manifestation of tertiary syphilis. The lesions include aortitis, aortic valve regurgitation, aortic aneurysm, and coronary artery ostia stenosis. The proximal aorta affected shows a tree-barking appearance as a result of medial scarring and secondary atherosclerosis. Endarteritis and periaortitis of the vasa vasorum in the wall of the aorta, is responsible for aortic lesions and in time, this may dilate and form aneurysm and eventually rupture classically in the arch.

### **3. Neurosyphilis:**

- occurs in about 10% of untreated patients. The neurosyphilis comprises of

i. **Meningiovascular syphilis**

f

- iii. **Tabes dorsalis** – Result of damage by the spirochetes to the sensory nerves in the dorsal roots resulting in locomotion ataxia, Charcot's joint, lightning pain and absence of deep tendon reflexes

### **Congenital syphilis**

- Ø This infection is most severe when the mother's infection is recent. Treponemas do not invade the placental tissue or the fetus until the fifth month of gestation (since immunologic competence only commences then) syphilis causes late abortion, still birth or death soon after delivery or It may persist in latent forms to become apparent only during childhood or adult life.
- Ø The outcome of congenital syphilis depends on stage of maternal infection (i.e. the degree of maternal spirochaetemia). In primary and secondary stages, the fetus is heavily infected and may die of hydrops in utero or shortly after birth. Liver and pancreas show diffuse fibrosis. The placenta is heavy, and pale with plasmacytic villitis. After maternal second stage, the effects of congenital syphilis are progressively less severe.
- Ø Less dramatic visceral disease, papular lesions on skin and mucosae such as the nose snuffles, may be seen with Hutchinson's teeth, and interstitial keratitis.
- Ø Children infected in utero who are sero-positive show no lesions until two or more years after birth are classified as having late congenital syphilis. The late congenital syphilis is distinctive for the triads: Interstitial keratitis; Hutchinson teeth and Eight nerve deafness

## **VII. Malaria**

Malaria is caused by the intracellular protozoan parasite called Plasmodium species and Plasmodium falciparum is the worldwide infections that affect 100 million people and kill 1 to 1.5 million people yearly. P.falciparum and P.vivax, P. ovale, and P.malariae represent 60%, 49 %, <1.0% and reported cases respectively in Ethiopia. P. falciparum cause high parasitemias, severe anemia, cerebral symptoms, and pulmonary edema and death.

### **Pathogenesis (P.falciparum):**

Infected humans produce gametocytes that mosquitoes acquire on feeding. Within these insects' body, the organism produces sporozoites, which the mosquito transmits to human when it feeds

- § Malarial sporozites after being released in the blood within minutes attach to a serum protein thrombosporin and properdin located on the basolateral surface of hepatocytes. These sporozites multiply and release merozoites by rupturing liver cells.
- § Once released, *P. falciparum* merozoites bind by a parasite lectin like molecule to on the surface of red blood cells
- § Within 2 to 3 weeks of hepatic infection, merozoites rupture from their host hepatocytes and invade erythrocytes establishing erythrocytic phase of malarial infection.
- § The merozoites feed on hemoglobin grow and reproduce within erythrocytes. Repeated cycles of parasitemia occur with subsequent ruptures of these cells with resultant clinical manifestations such as chills, fever etc.
- § *P. Vivax* merozoites however, bind by homologous lectin to the Duffy antigen on RBC so many cases who are Duffy negative are resistant to this infection.
- § HLA –B53 associated resistance in some Africans is related to the ability of HLA –B53 to present the liver stage specific malarial antigen to cytotoxic T-cells, which then kill malarial, infected hepatocytes.
- § Individuals with sickle cell trait are resistant to malaria because the red cells that are parasitized in these individuals are removed by the spleen.
- § Most malarial parasites infect new RBC & some develop to sexual form called gametocytes and the mosquito when it takes this blood meal the cycle continues.

### **Morphology:**

- § Spleen enlarged upto 1000gm (normally 150grams) and this splenomegaly can be attributed to increased phagocytosis in splenic reticuloendothelial cells in chronic malaria. The parenchyma imparts grey or blue discoloration due to hemozoin.
- § Liver kuffer cells are heavily laden with malarial pigments, parasites, and cellular debris. Pigmented phagocytes may be dispersed through out bone marrow, lymph nodes, subcutaneous tissues and lungs.
- § Malignant cerebral malaria: Patients with cerebral malaria have increased amount of inter-cellular adhesion molecules (ICAM- 1). These patients manifest diffuse symmetric encephalopathy; brain vessels are plugged with parasitized red cells. There are ring hemorrhages related to local hypoxia. Cerebral involvement by *P. falciparum* causing 80% of childhood death is due to adhesion of the *P. falciparum* parasite to endothelial cells with in the brain.

Hypoglycemia- result from failure of hepatic gluconeogenesis & glucose consumption by the host and the parasite lactic acidosis -due to anaerobic glycolysis, non cardiogenic pulmonary edema, renal impairment, anemias etc



**Complications of malaria include:**

Tropical splenomegaly syndrome (**Hyperreactive** malarial splenomegaly),  
Burkitt's lymphoma and EBV infection



parasite specific CD4+T cells of T helper class 2 that secrete IL-4 which inhibits macrophages activation by interferon gamma and inhibits secretion of TNF  $\alpha$  .

### **Morphology:**

§ Visceral leishmaniasis (L.donovanni & L.chagasi) macrophages of RES are invaded so hepatosplenomegaly, lymphadenopathy, pancytopenia, fever & weight loss, hyperpigmentation of the skin (kalazar, black fever) glomerulonephritis (mesangioproliferative) and in advanced cases amyloid deposits.

### **Cutaneous leishmaniasis**

Localized single ulcer on exposed skin (slowly expanding and irregular borders, usually heals within 6 months by involution. The lesion is granulomatous.

### **Diffuse cutaneous leishmaniasis**

Lesions of diffuse cutaneous leishmaniasis resembles lepromatous leprosy nodules. The lesions do not ulcerate but contain vast aggregates of foamy macrophages filled with leishmania. The patients are usually anergic not only to Leshmania but also to other skin antigens and the disease respond poorly to therapy.

## **IX.Schistosomiasis**

It is the most important helmenthic disease infecting 200 million people & killing 250,000 annually.

**Life cycle:** Schistosomal larval, (cercaria) & penetrate human skin. Ghycocalyx that protect the organism from osmotic is shed but it activates complement by alternative pathway. Schistosomes migrate into peripheral vasculature transverse to the lung and little in the portal venous system where they develop into adult male and female schistosomes. Females produce hundreds of eggs per day around which granulomas and fibrosis form the major manifestation in schistosomiasis. Some schistosome eggs are passed from the portal veins through the intestinal wall into the colonic lumen are shed with the feces and released into fresh water, form to miracidia that infect the snail to complete the life cycle.

## Pathogenesis

1. *S. mansoni* eggs cause liver disease in multiple ways. The schistosome eggs are direct hepatotoxicity.
2. Carbohydrate antigens of the eggs induce macrophage accumulation and granulomas formation mediated by TNF only TH<sup>1</sup> and TH<sup>2</sup> helper cells.

TH<sup>2</sup> helper T-cells are responsible for eosinophilia mastocytosis and high level of serum in human schistosomiasis, because these cells secrete IL-3 and IL-4, which stimulate mastocytosis and IL-5, which is the growth factor for eosinophils. Resistance to reinfection by schistosomes after treatment correlates with IgE levels whereas, eosinophile major basic proteins may destroy larvae schistosomula.

3. Eggs release factors that stimulate lymphocytes to secrete a lymphokine that stimulate fibroblast proliferation and portal fibrosis the exuberant fibrosis which is out of proportion to the injury caused by the eggs and granuloma, occurs in 5% of persons infected with schistosomes and cause severe portal hypertension esophageal varicoses and ascites - the hallmark of severe schistosomiasis.

## Morphology:

White granulomas scattered in the liver and gut. The center of the granuloma is the schistosome eggs. The granuloma degenerate overtime and undergo fibrosis and calcification. The liver is darkened by regurgitated pigments from the schistosome gut which like malaria pigment are iron negative and accumulate in kuffer cells and splenic macrophages.

Severe infection (*S. mansoni* & *S. japonicum*)

### Colonic pseudopolyps

Liver surface is bumpy and its cut section shows granuloma and wide spreading fibrous portal enlargement without distortion of the intervening parenchyma.

Portal fibrosis (PIPE-stem fibrosis) many of these portal triads lack a vein lumen causing perisinusoidal portal hypertension and severe congestive splenomegaly, esophageal varices. Schistome eggs diverted to the lungs through portal collateral may produce granulomatous pulmonary arteritis with intimal hyperplasia progressive arterial obstruction and ultimately heart failure (cor pulmonale).

Patients with hepatosplenic Schistosomiasis have also increased frequency of mesangioproliferative glomerulonephritis or membranous glomerulonephritis in which



glomeruli contain deposits of immunoglobulins and compliments but rarely schstosomal antigens.

### **S. hamatobium infection**

Massive egg depositions and early granuloma formation that when erode the vasculature (hamaturia). Latter the granuomas calcify and develop a sandy appearance and in severe







The major pathologic changes are in the CNS involving meninges, cortical grey matter and basal ganglia. The tissue response to *C. neoformans* is extremely variable. In immunosuppressed patients, the organisms may evoke no inflammatory reactions so; gelatinous masses of fungi grow in the meninges or in small cysts within the grey matter (soap bubble lesion)

### 3. Aspergillosis

Aspergillus is a ubiquitous mold that causes allergies in otherwise healthy persons and serious sinusitis, pneumonia and fungemia in neutropenic persons. Aspergillus form fruiting bodies.

#### Pathogenesis:

Aspergillus species have three toxins:

- § Aflatoxin: Aspergillus species may grow on surfaces of peanuts and may be a major cause of cancer in Africa.
- § Resistrictin and mitogilin: They inhibit protein synthesis by degrading mRNA
- § Mitogilin: It also induce IgE production so may be associated with allergic Alveolitis by inducing type III & IV reactions, allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis which often-in asthmatic that eventually leads to COLD.

#### Morphology:

**Colonizing Aspergilosis (Aspergiloma):** It implies growth of fungus in pulmonary cavity with minimal or no invasion of the tissues. The cavity usually result from the pre-existing tuberculosis, bronchiactasis, old infracts and abscesses,

**Invasive Aspergilosis** It is an opportunistic infection confined to immunosupressed and debilitated hosts. Common sites of disseminations include the heart valves, brain and kidneys.

The Aspergilus Species have a tendency to invade blood vessels and thus, areas of hemorrhages and infarction are usually superimposed on necrotizing inflammatory reactions

### 4. Histoplasmosis

- The causative organism *H. capsulatum* is recovered from dust particles of soil, bird or bat droppings contain small spores (micro conidia).
- Histoplasmosis and Coccidiomycosis resemble pulmonary tuberculosis and both are

- **Natural history of histoplasmosis include.**

- 1) Self limited with subsequent coin lesions on X-ray films
- 2) Chronic progressive secondary lung disease in lung apices
- 3) Localized lesion in extra pulmonary site including mediastinum, adrenals, liver and meninges
- 4) Widely disseminated disease especially in immunocompromised individuals

Histoplasma yeasts are phagocytosed by unstimulated macrophages and multiply in phagosomes and lyse host cells. Histoplasma infection is controlled by T helper cells. Subsequently secreted interferon gamma activates macrophages to kill intracellular yeasts. Tumour necrotizing factor alpha (TNF- $\alpha$ ) is also secreted to kill histoplasma. Lacking cellular immunity, patients with AIDS are susceptible to disseminated disease.

**Morphology:**

**Granulomatous inflammation** with areas of solidifications that may liquefy subsequently. The lesion may undergo fibrosis spontaneously or with drug therapy in the lungs.

**Fulminant disseminated histoplasmosis** is seen in immunocompromised individuals where immune granulomas are not formed and mononuclear phagocytes are stuffed with numerous fungi throughout the body.

## **XI. Viral Infections**

**Mechanisms of viral injury:**

Viruses damage host cells by entering the cell and replicating at the host's expense.

**Viral tropism** -in part caused by the binding of specific viral surface proteins to particular host cell surface receptor proteins.

The second major cause of viral tropism is the ability of the virus to replicate inside some cells but not in others. For example, JC papovavirus, which causes leucoencephalopathy is restricted to oligodendroglia, in the CNS.

- § Once attached the entire viron or a portion containing the genome and the essential polymerase penetrate into the cell cytoplasm in one of the three ways
- 1) Translocation of the entire virus across the plasma membrane
  - 2) Fusion of viral envelop with the cell membrane or

- 3) Receptor -mediated endocytosis of the virus and fusion with endosomal membranes

Within the cell, the virus uncoats separating its genome from its structural component and losing its infectivity. Viruses also use host system for viral synthesis.

- Newly synthesized viral genome and capsid proteins are then assembled into progeny virions in the nucleus or cytoplasm and are released directly (unencapsulated viruses) or bud through the plasma membrane (encapsulated viruses)
- Viral infection can be abortive with incomplete replicative cycle
- Latent in which the virus (eg herpes zoster) persists in a cryptic state within the dorsal



## XII. Exercise

Describe the etiology, pathogenesis, morphologic changes and clinical effects of each of the above mentioned diseases.



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# CHAPTER NINE

## NEOPLASIA

### I. Learning objectives:

At the end of this chapter, students are expected to:

1. Differentiate neoplastic lesions from non-neoplastic ones.
2. Contrast benign from malignant tumours.
3. Describe methods and mechanisms of metastasis.
4. List the etiologic factors in carcinogenesis.
5. Understand clinical effects of neoplasms
6. Know the diagnostic modalities for cancers

### II. Definition and Nomenclature

Literally, neoplasia means new growth and technically, it is defined as abnormal mass of tissues the growth of which exceeds and persists in the same excessive manner after cessation of the stimulus, evoking the transformation.

**Nomenclature:** Neoplasms are named based upon two factors

- Ø on the histologic types : mesenchymal and epithelial
- Ø on behavioral patterns : benign and malignant neoplasms

Thus, the suffix -oma denotes a benign neoplasm. Benign mesenchymal neoplasms originating from muscle, bone, fat, blood vessel nerve, fibrous tissue and cartilages are named as Rhabdomyoma, osteoma, lipoma, hemangioma, neuroma, fibroma and chondroma respectively. Benign epithelial neoplasms are classified on the basis of cell of origin for example adenoma is the term for benign epithelial neoplasm that form glandular pattern or on basis of microscopic or macroscopic patterns for example visible finger like or warty projection from epithelial surface are referred to as papillomas.

This nomenclature has, however, some exceptions

- (I) Nonneoplastic misnomers hematoma, granuloma, hamartoma
- (II) Malignant misnomers melanoma, lymphoma, seminoma, glioma, hepatoma.

Malignant neoplasm nomenclature essentially follows the same scheme used for benign neoplasm with certain additions. Malignant neoplasms arising from mesenchymal tissues are called sarcomas (Greed sar =fleshy). Thus, it is a fleshy tumour. These neoplasms are named as fibrosarcoma, liposarcoma, osteosarcoma, hemangiosarcoma etc.

Malignant neoplasms of epithelial cell origin derived from any of the three germ layers are called carcinomas.

Eg. Ectodermal origin: skin (epidermis squamous cell carcinoma, basal cell carcinoma) Mesodermal origin: renal tubules (renal cell carcinoma). Endodermal origin: linings of the gastrointestinal tract (colonic carcinoma) Carcinomas can be furtherly classified those producing glandular microscopic pictures are called Aden carcinomas and those producing recognizable squamous cells are designated as squamous cell carcinoma etc furthermore, when possible the carcinoma can be specified by naming the origin of the tumour such as renal cell adenocarcinoma etc

**Tumors that arise from more than tissue components:**

- Teratomas contain representative of parenchyma cells of more than one germ layer, usually all three layers. They arise from totipotential cells and so are principally encountered in ovary and testis.
- Mixed tumors containing both epithelial and mesenchymal components Examples Malignan .005 TD(191)Tj/TT2 1 Tf13f1349o3cingoes



cells resemble mature normal cells of tissue of origin. Poorly differentiated or undifferentiated tumours have primitive appearing, unspecialized cells. In general, benign neoplasms are well differentiated. Malignant neoplasms in contrast, range from well differentiated, moderately differentiated to poorly differentiate types. Malignant neoplasm composed of undifferentiated cells are said to be anaplastic, literally anaplasia means to form backward.

- Ø Morphology of anaplastic cell includes large Pleomorphic; hyperchromatic nucleus with high nuclear cytoplasmic ratio 1:1 (normally 1:4 to 1:6). The cell usually reveals large nucleoli with high and often abnormal mitoses. Tumour giant cells and frequent loss of polarity of epithelial arrangements are encountered.
- Ø On functional differentiation, the well differentiated the neoplasm, the more completely it retains the functional capabilities found in its normal counterparts thus, endocrine tumours produce hormone (ex. Thyroid, adrenal) so also, well differentiated squamous cell carcinoma and well differentiated hepatocellular carcinomas produce keratine and bile respectively.
- Ø However, highly anaplastic or undifferentiated cells of what cell tissue of origin come to resemble each other functionally and morphologically more than the normal cells which they have arisen this is called chemical convergence.

## **2. Rate of growth**

- Ø Most benign tumours grow slowly whereas; most malignant tumours grow rapidly sometimes, at erratic pace. Some benign tumours for example uterine leiomyoma increase in size during pregnancy due to probably steroidal effects (estrogen) and regress in menopause. In general, the growth rate of neoplasms correlate with their level of differentiation and thus, most malignant neoplasms grow more rapidly than do benign neoplasms. On occasions, cancers have been observed to decrease in size and even spontaneously disappear. Examples include renal cell carcinoma, malignant melanoma, choriocarcinoma.

## **3. Local invasion**

- Ø Nearly all benign neoplasms grow as cohesive expansile masses that remains localized to their site of origin and do not have the capacity to invade or metastasize to distant sites, as do malignant neoplasms.
- Ø Rims of fibrous capsules encapsulate most benign neoplasms. However, hemangiomas and neurofibromas are exceptions. Thus, such encapsulations tend to contain the

benign neoplasms as a discrete, rapidly palpable and easily movable mass that can easily surgically enucleated.

- Ø The growth of malignant neoplasms is accompanied by progressive infiltration, invasion and destruction of the surrounding tissue. Generally, they are poorly demarcated from the surrounding normal tissue (and a well-defined cleavage plane is lacking).
- Ø Next to the development of metastasis, invasiveness is the most reliable feature that differentiates malignant from benign neoplasms.
- Ø Even though, malignant neoplasms can invade all tissues in the body, connective tissues are the favoured invasive path for most malignant neoplasms, due to the elaboration of some enzymes such as type IV collagenases & plasmin, which is specific to collagen of basement membrane. Several matrix-degrading enzymes including glycosidase may be associated with tumour invasion.
- Ø Arteries are much more resistant to invasion than are veins and lymphatic channels due to its increased elastic fibers contents and its thickened wall. Densely compact collagens such as membranous tendons, and joint capsules. Cartilage is probably the most resistant of all tissues to invasions and this is may be due to the biologic stability and slow turnover of cartilage.

#### **Sequential steps in mechanisms of tumor invasion & metastasis:**

- a. Carcinoma in-situ
- b. Malignant cell surface receptors bind to basement membrane components (ex laminin).
- c. Malignant cell disrupt and invade basement membrane by releasing collagenase type IV and other protease.
- d. Invasion of the extracellular matrix
- e. Detachment
- f. Embolization
- g. Survival in the circulation
- h. Arrest
- i. Extravasation
- j. Evasion of host defense
- k. Progressive growth
- l. Metastasis

Most carcinomas begin as localized growth confined to the epithelium in which they arise. As long as this early cancers do not penetrate the basement membrane on which the epithelium rests such tumours are called carcinoma in-situ.

In those situations in which cancers arise from cell that are not confined by a basement membrane, such as connective tissue cells, lymphoid elements and hepatocytes, an in-situ stage is not defined.

#### 4. Metastasis

- Ø It is defined as a transfer of malignant cells from one site to another not directly connected with it (as it is described in the above steps).
- Ø Metastasis is the most reliable sign of malignancy. The invasiveness of cancers permits them to penetrate in to the blood vessel, lymphatic and body cavities providing the opportunity for spread.
- Ø Most malignant neoplasm metastasies except few such as gliomas in the central nervous system, basal cell carcinoma (Rodent ulcer) in the skin and dermatofibrosarcoma in soft tissues.
- Ø Organs least favoured for metastatic spread include striated muscles and spleen.
- Ø Since the pattern of metastasis is unpredictable, no judgment can be made about the possibility of metastasis from pathologic examination of the primary tumour.
- Ø Approximately 30% of newly diagnosed patients with solid tumours (excluding skin cancers other than melanoma) present with metastasis in the studied populations.

#### Pathways of spread:

Dissemination of malignant neoplasm may occur through one of the following pathways.

##### 1. Seeding of body cavities and surfaces (transcoelomic spread)

- Ø This seeding may occur wherever a malignant neoplasm penetrates into a natural "open field". Most often involved is the peritoneal cavity, but any other cavities such as pleural, pericardial, sub-arachnoid and joint spaces-may be affected.
- Ø Particular examples are krukenberg tumour that is a classical example of mucin producing signet ring adenocarcinomas arising from gastrointestinal tract, pancreas, breast, and gall bladder may spread to one or both ovaries and the peritoneal cavities.
- Ø The other example is pseudomyxoma peritoniar bdc bde>Tj/T37cardial,iag0002 Twwhi sucratieusies g

gelatinous soft, translucent neoplastic mass. It can also be associated with primaries in the gallbladder and pancreas.

## 2. Lymphatic spread

- Ø Lymphatic route is the most common pathway for the initial dissemination of carcinomas
- Ø The pattern of lymph node involvement follows the natural routes of drainage. Lymph nodes involvement in cancers is in direct proportion to the number of tumour cell



## IV. Cancer Epidemiology

- ∅ The only certain way to avoid cancer is not to be born, to live is to incur the risk.
- ∅ Thus, In USA one in five deaths is due to cancers. Over the years cancer incidence increased in males while it slightly decreased in females (due to largely screening Procedures-cervical, breast etc.). In the studied populations the most common cancer in males is broncogenic carcinoma while breast carcinoma in females.
- ∅ Most cancers in adults occur in those over 55 years of age.
- ∅ Children under 15 years of age however, are susceptible to acute leukemia, central

- Familial adenomatous polyps of the colon. virtually all cases are fatal to develop carcinoma of the colon by the age of 50.

## ii. Familial cancers:

Evidence of familial clustering of cancer are documented

E.g. Breast, ovarian, colonic, and brain cancers

iii. **Autosomal recessive syndromes of defective DNA repair** Characterized by chromosomal or DNA instability syndrome such as xeroderma pigmentosum, Ataxia telangiectasia, Bloom syndrome and Fanconi anemia

## B) Acquired preneoplastic disorders

∅ **Regenerative, hyperplastic and dysplastic proliferations are fertile soil for the origin of malignant neoplasms.**

Endometrial hyperplasia - endometrial carcinoma

Cervical dysplasia - cervical cancer

Bronchial dysplasia - bronchogenic carcinoma

Regenerative nodules - liver cancer

∅ **Certain non-neoplastic disorders may predispose to cancers.**

Chronic atrophic gastritis - gastric cancer

Solar keratosis of skin - skin cancer

Chronic ulcerative colitis - colonic cancer

Leukoplakia of the

oral cavity, vulva and penis - squamous cell carcinoma

∅ **Certain types of benign neoplasms**

Large cumulative experiences indicate that most benign neoplasms do not become malignant. However, some benign neoplasms can constitute premalignant conditions.

For example:

Villous colonic adenoma - Colonic cancer

## V. Molecular Basis of Cancer (Carcinogenesis)

### Basic principles of carcinogenesis:

The fundamental principles in carcinogenesis include

- 1) Non-lethal genetic damage lies at the heart of carcinogenesis. Such genetic damage (mutation) may be acquired by the action of environmental agents such as chemicals, radiation or viruses or it may be inherited in the germ line.
- 2) The three classes of normal regulatory genes are:
  - i) **The growth promoting proto-oncogenes**



## Types of carcinogenesis:

A large number of agents cause genetic damages and induce neoplastic transformation of cells. They fall into the following three categories:

- a) Chemical carcinogenesis
- b) Radiation carcinogenesis
- c) Viral carcinogenesis

### A) Chemical carcinogenesis

An enormous variety of chemicals may induce tumours and this was exemplified by Sir Percival Pott's observation in the last century that astutely related the increased incidence of scrotal skin cancer in chimney sweeps to chronic exposure to soot.

#### Steps involved in chemical carcinogenesis

- ∅ appropriate dose of a chemical carcinogenic agents to a cell results in the formation of initiation –promotion sequence
- ∅ Initiation causes permanent DNA damage (mutation) which, is rapid and irreversible. However, initiation alone is not sufficient for tumour formation and thus, promoters can induce tumours in initiated cells, but they are non-tumourogenic by themselves. Furthermore, tumours do not result when a promoting agent applied before, the initiating agent.
- ∅ In contrast to the effects of initiators, the cellular changes resulting from the application of promoters do not affect DNA directly and are reversible.
- ∅ Promoters render cells susceptible to additional mutations by causing cellular proliferation. Examples of promoters include phorbol ester, hormones, phenols and drugs.

Chemical carcinogenic agents fall into two categories

#### 1. Directly acting compound

- ∅ These are ultimate carcinogens and have one property in common:
- ∅ They are highly reactive electrophiles (have electron deficient atoms) that can react with nucleophilic (electron-rich) sites in the cell. This reaction is non-enzymatic and result in the formation of covalent adducts (addition products) between the chemical carcinogen and a nucleotide in DNA.



- ∅ Electrophilic reactions may attack several electron-rich sites in the target cells including DNA, RNA, and proteins.
- ∅ Only a few alkylating and acylating agents are directly acting carcinogens

## 2. Indirect acting compounds (or pro-carcinogens)

- ∅ Requires metabolic conversion in vivo to produce ultimate carcinogens capable of transforming cells.
- ∅ Most known carcinogens are metabolized by cytochrome p-450 dependent monooxygenase.
- ∅ Examples of this group include polycyclic and heterocyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and aromatic amines etc....
- ∅ These chemical carcinogens lead to mutations in cells by affecting the functions of oncogenes, onco-suppressor genes and genes that regulate apoptosis.

## B) Radiation carcinogenesis

Radiant energy whether in form of ultraviolet

As with other carcinogens, UVB also cause mutations on oncogenes and tumour suppressor genes mutant forms of P53 and ras genes have been detected.

**ii) Ionizing radiation**

Ø



### General feature of the oncogenic DNA virus

- a) Transforming DNA virus form stable associations with the host cell genome. The integrated virus is unable to complete its replicative cycle because the viral genes essential for completion of replication are interrupted during integration of viral DNA (E1/E2)
- b) Those viral genes that are transcribed early (early genes) in the viral life cycle are expressed in the transformed cells.

### Human papilloma Virus (HPV)

- Ø HPV definitely causes benign squamous papilloma (warts) (type 1,2,3,4, 7). It also implicated in the genesis of squamous cell carcinomas of cervix and anogenital region (types 16,18 and also 31,33,35,and 51 found in 85% SCC). It is also linked to the causation of oral and laryngeal cancers.
- Ø The HPV DNA integration into host cell is random (viral DNA is found in different locations), however, the pattern of integration, is clonal (that is the site of integration is identical within all cells of a given cancer).

### Epstein – Barr virus (EBV)

- Ø Member of the herpes family has been implicated in the pathogenesis of four tumours. The African form of Burkitt's lymphoma, B- cell lymphomas in immuno suppressed individuals particularly in those with some cases of Hodgkin's disease and Naso pharyngeal carcinoma.
- Ø EBV infects epithelial cell of the oro pharynx and B- lymphocytes. The infection of B- cell is latent and the latently infected B-cell is immortalized. Several viral genes dysregulate the normal proliferative and survival signals in latently infects cells for example the latent membrane protein –1 (LMP-1) prevents apoptosis of B- cells by up regulating the expression of bc1-2 and it activates growth promoting pathways. Thus, LMP-1 can induce both cell growth and cell survival. Similarly the EBV- encoded EBNA- gene transactivates several host genes including cyclin D and members of the src family EBNA- 2 also activates the transcription of LMP- 1. Thus, it seems that several *viral* genes collaborate to render B- cells immortal.
- Ø The Association between African Burkett Lymphoma and EBV is quite strong.
  - More than 90% of African tumours carry the EBV genome
  - One hundred percent of the patients have elevated antibody titres against viral capsid antigens

- Serum antibody titres against viral capsid antigens are correlated with the risk of developing the tumour. Several other observations suggested that additional factors must be involved. In Africa poorly understood co-factor (ex chronic malaria), favor sustained proliferation of B- cells immortalized by EBV. The actively dividing B- cells are at increased risk of mutations (t- 8; 14) translocation that juxta - pose C- myc with one of Immuno- globuline gene loci.

### **Hepatitis B- virus (HBV)**

- Ø Strong epidemiologic association prevails between HBV and hepato cellular Carcinoma. HBV genome, however, does not encode any oncoproteins, and there is no consistent pattern of integration in the vicinity of any known protomcogeres
- Ø The effects of HBV is indirect and possibly multi factorial.
  - i) By causing chronic liver cell injury and accompanying regenerative hyperplasic
  - ii) HBV encodes a regulatory element called HBx protein, which disrupts normal growth control of infected liver cells by transcriptional activation of several growth promoting genes such as insulin like growth factor II
  - iii) HBV binds to P53 and appears to interfere with its growth suppressing activities. Although not a DNA virus hepatitis virus is also strongly linked to the pathogenesis of hepato cellular carcinoma as evidenced by epidemiologic studies.

### **ii. RNA oncogenic viruses**

- Ø Although the study of animal retroviruses has provided spectacular insights to molecular basis of cancer , only one retrovirus is firmly implicated in the causation of cancer and it is Human T cells leukemia/ lymphoma virus type 1 (HTLV-1) .
- Ø Similar to HIV virus. HTLV-1 has tropism for CD4+T cells > Human infection requires transmission of infected T cells through sexual intercourse, blood products, or breast feedings. Leukemia develops after a 20 or 30 years of latency in about 1% of patients. HTLV-1 is also associated tropical spastic Para paresis.

### **iii. Helicobacter pylori**

- Ø There is an association between gastric infections with helicobacter pylori as a cause of gastric lymphoma. The stronger link is with B cell lymphoma of stomach. Treatment of H. pylori with antibiotics results in regression of the lymphoma in most cases. The lymphoma arise from the mucosa associated lymphoid tissues (MALT) hence, they sometimes are called MALTOMAS. The lymphoid cells reside in the marginal zones of lymphoid follicles and hence alternatively named as mantle zone lymphoma.

## VI. Clinical Features of Tumors

Neoplasms are essentially parasites. In fact, benign lesions are more common than cancers. Although cancer evaluation may suggest one or the other, the only unequivocal benign mass is the excised and histopathologically diagnosed one.

### Effects of tumour on the host:

Both benign and malignant neoplasms may cause problems because of

1. location and impingement on adjacent structures
2. functional activities such as hormone synthesis
3. bleeding and secondary infection when they ulcerate through adjacent natural surfaces
4. initiation of acute symptoms caused by either rupture or infarction local and hormonal effects
  - Ø For example pituitary adenoma being located in critical location can cause serious endocrinopathies
  - Ø Analogously cancers arising with or metastatic to an endocrine organ may cause an endocrine insufficiency by destroying the gland.
  - Ø Neoplasms in the gut (both benign and malignant) may cause obstruction as they enlarge
  - Ø Benign neoplasms more commonly of endocrine origin may produce manifestations by elaboration of hormones. For example a benign B-cell adenoma of pancreatic islets less than 1 cm in diameter may produce sufficient insulin to cause fatal hypoglycemia
  - Ø The erosive destructive growth of cancers or expansive pressure on benign tumour of





## VII. Laboratory Diagnosis of Cancer

Every year approach to laboratory diagnosis of cancer becomes more complex more sophisticated and more specialized with time.

### Histologic and cytologic methods:

- Ø The laboratory diagnoses of most cancers is not difficult however, border line cases in no man's land where wise men trade cautiously pose the most difficulties
- Ø Clinicians tend to underestimate the important contributions they make in the diagnosis of neoplasms. Clinical data are invaluable for optimal pathologic diagnosis for example radiation changes in the skin or mucosa can be similar to cancer and similarly section taken from a healing fracture can mimic remarkably an osteosarcoma.
- Ø The laboratory sample to be diagnosed need to be adequate, representative and well preserved

### Several sampling approaches are available:

1. Excisional or incisional biopsy
2. Cytologic smears:
  - Fine needle aspiration
  - PAP smear
  - Fluid cytology
3. Advanced techniques
  - Immunocytochemistry
  - Flow cytometry
  - Tumour markers

### Excisional biopsy

- Ø Selection of an appropriate site for biopsy of a large mass requires awareness that the margins may not be representative and the center largely necrotic .analogously disseminated lymphoma involving inguinal lymph nodes that drain large part of the body often have reactive changes that may mask neoplastic involvement.
- Ø Appropriate preservation of specimens is obvious thus, formalin for routine fixation glutaraldehyde for electron microscopy prompt refrigeration to permit optimal hormone by receptor analysis



- Ø Requesting, "quick frozen section" diagnosis is sometimes desirable for determining (for example in breast carcinoma) for evaluating the margins of an excised cancer to ascertain that the entire neoplasm has been removed.

### **Fine needle aspiration**

- Ø The procedure involves aspirating cell and attendant fluid with a small needle followed by cytologic examination of the stained smear
- Ø This method is used most commonly for the assessment of readily palpable lesions such as breasts, thyroid and lymph nodes etc.

### **Cytologic (PAP) smear**

- Ø This method is widely used for the discovery of carcinoma of the cervix, it also detect cervical cancers at an in situ stage, and other suspected malignancies such as endometrial, and bronchogenic carcinomas, bladder and prostatic tumours and gastric carcinoma.
- Ø It is also used for the identification of tumour cell in abdominal, pleural joint and cerebrospinal fluids

### **Tumour markers**

- Ø Tumour markers are biochemical indicators of the presence of a tumour. They include cell surface antigens, cytoplasmic proteins, enzymes and hormones.
- Ø Tumour markers can not be construed as primary modalities for the diagnosis of cancer and thus, act as supportive laboratory tests.
- Ø A host of tumour markers have been described and new ones appear every year

### Selected Tumor Markers

Markers	Associated cancers
- Hormones	
Human chorionic gonadotrophic hormone (HCG)	Trophoblastic tumours, non seminomatous testicular tumours
Catecholamine	Medullary thyroid carcinoma (ca)
Catecholamines & metabolites	Pheochromocytoma & related tumours
Ectopic hormones	Paraneoplastic syndromes
Oncofetal antigens	
fetoprotein	Hepatic ca, non seminomatous germ cell tumours of testis
CEA	Cancers of colon, pancreas, lung, stomach and Breast
Isoenzymes	
Prostatic acid phosphatase	Prostate cancer
Non specific enolase	Small cell cancer of lung, neuroblastoma
Specific proteins	
Immunoglobulins	Multiple myeloma and other gammopathies

- Categorization of undifferentiated malignant tumours here intermediate filaments are important. Keratin for carcinomas, desmin for neoplasm's of muscle origin
- Categorization of leukemias / lymphomas
- Determination of site of origin of metastatic tumours
- Detection of molecules that have prognostic or therapeutic significance: Detection



## VIII. Exercises

1. Define neoplasia.
2. Discuss the differences between benign and malignant neoplasms.
3. What are the etiologic factors in carcinogenesis?
4. Discuss the clinical features of neoplasms.
5. How is the diagnosis of cancer made in the laboratory?



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# CHAPTER TEN

## METABOLIC DISEASES

### I. Learning objectives

By the time the student is through with this lecture note he/she should be able to:

1. Define diabetes mellitus.
2. Know the classification of DM and the basis for the classification.
3. List the criteria for the diagnosis of DM.
4. Describe the pathogenesis of type 1 and type 2 DM.
5. Describe the pathologic lesion seen in the pancreas of a patient with type 1 and type 2 MD.

includes Diabetes mellitus and Gout. These two groups of metabolic diseases are further discussed below.

### III. Diabetes Mellitus

The definition, classification, epidemiology, pathogenesis, morphology, clinical features, diagnostic criteria, & complications of diabetes mellitus will be discussed next in this sequence.

#### 1. Definition

DM represents a heterogeneous group of disorders that have hyperglycemia as a common feature.

It can also be defined as a chronic metabolic abnormality of CHO, Fat, and Protein.

#### 2. Classification

Although all forms of DM are characterized by hyperglycemia the pathogenic mechanism by which hyperglycemia arises differ widely.

Recent classification of DM is based on the pathogenic mechanism that led to the development of the diabetic syndrome rather than age of onset and type of therapy.

As to the new classification there are four types of diabetes of which the first two are the major types.

#### A. Type 1 DM

further classified as type1A and type1B.

- Type 1A DM results from autoimmune beta

## **B. Type 2 DM**

- It is a heterogeneous group of disorders usually characterized by variable degrees of insulin resistance, impaired insulin secretion, and increased glucose production.

## **C. Other specific types of DM**

Other causes for DM include specific genetic defects in insulin secretion or action, metabolic abnormalities that impair insulin secretion, conditions that impair glucose tolerance, exocrine disease of the pancreas that lead to destruction of beta cell, several endocrinopathies that can lead to DM as a result of excessive secretion of hormones that antagonize the action of insulin.

## **D. Gestational diabetes**

N.B- the previously used terms, NIDDM to represent type 2 DM and IDDM to represent type 1 DM, are obsolete.

## **3. Epidemiology**

- The prevalence of DM has increased dramatically in the world due to the increasing urbanization and consequent life style changes.
- There is considerable variation in DM prevalence among different ethnic groups world wide due to both genetic and environmental factors.
- Type 2DM accounts to 80% of all cases and type 1DM accounts to 5-10% of all cases of diabetes.
- The incidence of DM is similar in men and women throughout most age ranges but is slightly greater in men > 60 years of age.

## **4. Pathogenesis**







## B. Type 2 DM

### Pathogenesis

- Is also a polygenic disorder
- Central to the development of type 2 DM are insulin resistance and abnormal insulin secretion. Many believe that peripheral insulin resistance precedes the latter

### Genetic factors







## 8. Complications of Diabetes

### A. Acute complications



Infarction (cerebral, coronary, mesenteric)

Drugs

- Clinically, ketoacidosis begins with anorexia, nausea and vomiting , coupled with Polyuria . If condition is not treated it may go into altered consciousness and coma.

### iii. Non-ketotic Hyperosmolar state

- Is usually a complication of Type 2 because there is enough insulin to prevent ketosis
- Patient present with profound dehydration resulting from a sustained hyperglycemic diuresis and finally goes to a comatose state

## B. Late complications of Diabetes

### Mechanisms of development of diabetic late complications:

Long-term hyperglycemia is essential for the development of diabetic late complications.

Many mechanisms linking hyperglycemia to the complications of long-standing diabetes have been explored. Currently two such mechanisms are important.

#### 1. Non-enzymatic glycosylation.

- Non-enzymatic binding of glucose (glycosylation) to cellular proteins. This leads to formation of advanced glycosylation End product (AGEs) which cross link proteins (e.g.. collagen, extra cellular proteins), promote glomerular dysfunctions, induce endothelial dysfunctions, and alter extra cellular matrix composition and structure.

- AGEs have been shown to accelerate atherosclerosis.

Increased Glycosylated low-density lipoproteins (LDL), which do not readily bind to the LDL receptor in the liver, thereby making LDL cholesterol available to the arterial wall.

**2. Hyperglycemia leads to increased intracellular glucose**, which is then metabolized by aldose reductase to sorbitol, a polyol, and eventually to fructose. These changes have several untoward effects. The accumulated sorbitol and fructose lead to increased intracellular osmolarity and influx of water, and eventually, to osmotic cell injury. In the lens, osmotically imbibed water causes swelling and opacity à cataract formation. **Sorbitol accumulation** also impairs ion pumps and is believed to promote injury of schwann cells

and pericytes of retinal capillaries, with resultant peripheral neuropathy and retinal microaneurysms.

### **Diabetic macrovascular disease:**

- Atherosclerosis

⇒ The extent and severity of atherosclerotic lesions in large and medium sized arteries are increased in long standing diabetes, and their development tends to be accelerated.

Atherosclerotic lesions in large blood vessels lead to vascular insufficiency and an ultimate production of ischemia in the organs supplied by the injured vessels.

E.g. Myocardial infarction, Brain infarction (resulting in stroke), gangrene of the toes and feet.

### **Diabetic microvascular disease**

Increased thickening of the basement membrane in small vessels leads to the following chronic complication:

#### **Diabetic Retinopathy**

- DM is the leading cause of blindness in the developed world at ages >20.
- Blindness is primarily the result of progressive diabetic retinopathy and significant macular edema

It is classified into two

#### 1. Non – proliferative retinopathy

- Is characterized by retinal vascular micro aneurysms, blot hemorrhages, and cotton wool spots

#### 2. Proliferative retinopathy

- As the vascular abnormalities tends to be severe, new blood vessels start to proliferate in the retina

#### **Diabetic Nephropathy**

- It is the leading cause of ESRD (End stage renal disease) in the developed world.



- It starts with microalbuminuria (30-300 mg/d in a 24 hr urine collection) and progresses to overt proteinuria (> 300mg/d)

Three important lesions are in a patient with diabetic nephropathy.

Thickening of glomerular basement membrane which results in glomerulosclerosis, renal arteriosclerosis as part of the systemic

Involvement of blood vessels, and pylonephritis.

### Diabetic Neuropathy

- It occurs in approximately 50% of individuals with DM
- It may manifest as polyneuropathy, mononeuropathy, and /or autonomic neuropathy

- Types 1A DM is caused mainly by an autoimmune destruction of the B- cells of the pancreases that ultimately leads to absolute insulin deficiency.
- Type 2 DM is characterized primarily by peripheral insulin resistance. It also results from impaired insulin secretion, and increased glucose production. The precise mechanism of the above disorders in Type 2 DM is not clear but polygenic disorders are believed to contribute to development of the said disorders.
- DM clinically manifest as polydipsia, Polyuria, polyphagia, metabolic acidosis and weight loss which are a direct or indirect consequence of hyperglycemia (increased blood



## Classification:

### 1. Primary (idiopathic) Gout

- In this category the causes that result in hyperuricemia are unknown,

Most cases (75-90%) of so- called idiopathic Gout result from an as yet unexplained impairment of uric acid excretion by the kidney.

- In minority of the cases, though the causes are unknown there is an over production of uric acid.

### 2. Secondary

- In this category the causes that result in Hyperuricemia are known

#### a. Conditions that result in over production of uric acid

- Most common cause of overproduction of uric acid is increased turn over of nucleic acids, as seen in leukemia and Lymphomas and after chemotherapy for cancer.
- Accelerated ATP degradation for various reasons results in over production of uric acid

⇒ Some genetic factors are also incriminated for over production of uric acid

#### b. Conditions that result in Decreased urinary excretion of uric acid

- The most common cause of decreased urinary excretion of uric acid is chronic renal diseases that lead to renal failure. In renal failure the clearance of uric acid is decreased, and with a fall in the rate of Glomerular filtrates, hyperuricemia ensues.

⇒ Other factors are also incriminated as a cause of decreased urinary excretion of uric acid.

## Pathology (Morphology):

- When a sodium urate crystal precipitates from super saturated body fluids, they absorb fibronectin, complement, and number of other proteins of their surfaces. In phagocytizing those protein coated crystals, Neutrophils release inflammatory mediators resulting in local inflammatory reaction

- Uric acid crystals may be found intracellularly in leukocytes of the synovial fluid. Extra cellular soft tissue deposits of these crystals (tophi), are surrounded by foreign bodies of xanthoma cells

- Macroscopically, it appears as chalky, white deposits on the surfaces of extra-articular structures and soft tissues around joints.
- Uric acid crystals also deposit in the kidney.

**Clinical features:**

There are four steps in the clinical course of gout:

1. Asymptomatic hyperuricemia  
Precedes clinically evident gout by many years
2. Acute gouty arthritis  
Initially there is a monoarticular involvement and later in the course of the disease,



## V. Exercises

Say true or false:

1. Diabetes is a disturbance of carbohydrate metabolism that does not affect the metabolism of lipids and proteins
2. If one monozygotic twin has type 1 diabetes, the other one has or will develop that disease in at least 50% of cases.
3. A family history of diabetes is more common in patients affected by type 1 diabetes than type 2.
4. There is a  $\beta$ -cell morphologic abnormalities in patients with type 2 DM.
5. Pathologic changes in patients with DM in any organ, depends on the duration of hyperglycemia.

Multiple choice questions:

**1. Type 1 DM is characterized by**

- A. Mostly occurs below age 20
- B. Has an abrupt onset
- C. Low levels of insulin in the blood
- D. All

**2. One of the following is not a micro vascular complication of DM**

- A. Stroke
- B. Retinopathy
- C. Nephropathy
- D. Neuropathy

**3. DKA is more common is**

- A. Type 1 DM
- B. Type 2 DM
- C. Gestational DM
- D. A&B

**4. One of the following is diagnostic for DM**

- A. A random blood glucose level 200mg /dl with profound hyperglycemia
- B. A fasting glucose level of 110 mg /dl
- C. A RBS level of 126 mg /dl
- D. None

**5. One of the following is false statement**

- A. Type 1 DM is more common than type 2 DM
- B. Polyuria and polydipsia are due to the hyperglycemic state
- C. None

Short answer questions: Define gout.

1. What is secondary gout? List the causes that result in hyperuricemia in secondary gout.
2. What are the clinical features of gout?
3. What is a urate nephropathy?

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# CHAPTER ELEVEN

## ENVIRONMENTAL DISEASES

### I. Learning objectives

After reading this chapter the student is expected to:

1. Define environmental diseases
2. Know the health impacts of air pollution
3. Define pneumoconiosis
4. Describe the pathogenesis and types of pneumoconiosis
5. List the Health impacts of Tobacco smoking
6. Describe the effects of acute alcohol intoxication and chronic alcoholism
7. Describe the causes and types of physical injuries

### II. Introduction

Environmental diseases include those caused by exposure to harmful substances in the environment, in a sense that it encompasses all nutritional, infectious, chemical and physical in origin.

Environmental diseases are surprisingly common. They can originate from occupational exposures, polluted ambient air, chemicals taken to the body through the lung or GIT for several reasons, or from noxious physical agents that come in contact to the body. International labor organization has estimated that work related injuries and illnesses kill 1.1 million people per year globally. Environmental diseases constitute an enormous burden financially and in disability and suffering. With this overview of the nature and magnitude of these diseases we will concentrate on the more important once.

### III. Air pollution

Air is most of the time, loaded with potential causes of diseases. Agents from the air like microorganisms contaminating food and water, chemical and particulate pollutants found in the air are common causes of diseases. It is important to see air pollution dividing it into an outdoor and indoor.



## A-Out door air pollution

The ambient air in industrialized countries is highly contaminated with gaseous and particulate pollutants. In undeveloped countries like ours air is less polluted. Air pollution is severe in big cities like, London, Mexico city and Losangeles. In addition air may be locally spoiled in the vicinities of heavy industries.

There are six major pollutants, which collectively produce the well-known smog making some big cities difficult to live in.

### To emphasize on some important points:

- Ozone is the most important pollutant in that it is produced in large amounts and has serious health consequences. It is highly reactive producing free radicals, which injures airways by virtue of release of inflammatory mediators. When healthy individuals are exposed, they experience mild respiratory symptoms, but its effects are exaggerated in people already having asthma and emphysema.
- Particulates are harmful when their diameters are less than  $10\mu\text{m}$  whatever their composition may be. Larger particles are filtered out in the nares or mucocilliary system along the airways. The size of smaller particles helps them to reach into airspaces (alveoli) where they are phagocytosed by macrophages and neutrophils. Inflammatory mediator released from these cells are the once which result in the damage.
- Even if single pollutants are able to cause lung function impairments, the results are move sever when pollutants are in a combination. It is clear that pollutants are often time available in the air combined.
- Pollutants have wide range of consequences in different organs but the lungs are the usual targets

Here is a table listing the six important pollutants, their origins and their potential consequences.

**Table 11.1 Major outdoor air pollutants**

	<b>Origin (s)</b>	<b>Consequences</b>
Ozone (o <sub>3</sub> )	Interaction of oxygen with various pollutants: oxide of nitrogen, sulfur and hydrocarbons.	Highly reactive, oxidizes polyunsaturated lipids that become irritants and induce release of inflammatory mediators affecting all airways
Nitrogen dioxide	Combustion of fossil fuels like coal, gasoline and wood	Dissolves in secretion in airways to form nitric & nitrous acids which irritates & damage linings of air ways
Sulfur dioxide	Combustion of fossils such as coal, gasoline, & wood	Yields sulfuricacid and bisulfites & sulfites which irritate and damage linings of airways, together with nitric acid contributes to acid rains
Carbon monoxide	Incomplete combustion of gasoline, oil, wood & natural gas	Combines with hemoglobin to displace oxyhemoglin & thus induce systemic asphyxia
Particulates	Great variety of finely divided pollutants may include asbestos, plaster dust, lead, ash hydrocarbon residue and other industrial nuclear wastes	Major contributor to smog & a major cause of respiratory diseases.

**B-Indoor air pollution**

Indoor air pollution is a major problem in undeveloped countries like Ethiopia where people cook inside living rooms. Here, large number of family members dwell in single rooms where cooking activities are also undertaken .So wood smoke produced in large quantities is accumulated to affect the health of adults and children. It contains oxides of nitrogen and carbon particulates which are irritants predisposing children to repeated lung infection. Tobacco smoke is the commonest pollutant in the house of people living in developed countries but additional offenders are listed in the table below

**Table 11.2 Health Effects of indoor air pollutants**

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Population at risk</b>	<b>Effects</b>
Carbon monoxide	Adults & children	Acute poisoning
Nitrogen dioxide	Children	Increased respiratory infection
Wood smoke	Children & Females	Increased respiratory infection Irritators
Formaldehyde	Adults & Children	Eye & nose irritant Asthma
Asbestos fibers	Maintenance & abatement workers	Lung cancer, mesothelioma
Bioaerosols	Adults & Children	Allergic rhinitis, asthma

#### **IV. Industrial Exposures**

Industrial workers are exposed to a wide range of organic and inorganic substances, which have different kinds of consequences on their health. Diseases can range from mere irritation of mucosa of airways due to organic fumes to lung cancer due to inorganic dusts and leukemia due to prolonged exposure to benzene and uranium. Pneumoconiosis is a typical example of the conditions which are brought by industrial exposures.

#### **PNEUMOCONIOSES**

Pneumoconioses are a group of non-neoplastic pulmonary disease, which are due to inhalation of organic and inorganic particulates. The mineral dust pneumoconiosis, which is due to coal dust, asbestos, silicon and beryllium, almost always occur from exposure in work places.

#### **Pathogenesis**

Pneumoconioses is a result of lung reactions towards offending inhaled substances. The reaction depends on the size, shape, solubility and reactivity of the particles. Particles greater than 10µm are not harmful because they are filtered out before reaching distal





## Clinical course

Pulmonary anthracosis and simple CWP result in no abnormalities in lung functions. When it progresses to progressive massive fibrosis in a minority of cases it results in pulmonary hypertension and cor pulmonale. Progression from simple CWP to PMF has been linked to amount and duration of exposure to coal dust. Smoking also has been shown to have the same effects. Sometimes of course the progression does not need factors mentioned above.

## Asbestos Related Disease

Asbestos is a generic name that embraces the silicate minerals that occur as long, thin fibers. Asbestosis refers to the pneumoconiosis that results from the inhalation of asbestos fibers

## Pathogenesis

Asbestos fibers are thin and long so that they can reach the bifurcations of bronchioles and alveoli. There, they are engulfed by macrophages to induce the cascade of inflammatory process, which finally result in interstitial pulmonary fibrosis.

## Pathology

1-Asbestosis: is an interstitial fibrosis of the lung. At early stages, fibrosis is in and around the alveoli and terminal bronchioles. When disease progresses, gross examination of the lungs show gray streaks of fibrous tissue, which accentuate the interlobular septa, together with diffuse thickening of the visceral pleura. The asbestos body is the most diagnostic structure seen under the microscope, consisting of asbestos fiber beaded with aggregates of iron along its length.

2-Pleural plaques: - after a period of many years the inhalation of asbestos fibers will result in the appearance of plaques on the parietal pleura.

They are 2 to 3 mm thick, and microscopically they are densely collagenous and hyalinized and sometimes calcified.

3-Mesothelioma: - a clear cut relationship between asbestos exposure and a malignant mesothelioma is now firmly established.

4-Other malignancies like lung and bladder cancers can also result from asbestos exposure.

## V. Tobacco Smoking

Considering the globe, the adverse effects of tobacco smoking outnumber all the effects of other pollutants. It is considered as one of the most important preventable causes of death in the United States. In our society also even though its health impacts are not so pronounced it still has serious health damage.

Tobacco smoking affects not only those who are actively smoking but it also has an adverse consequence on the health of those who are by the vicinity of the smoker. These individuals are termed as passive smokers.

### Active Smoking and disease

The cigarette smoke that is taken through the mouth into the lung has several types of chemicals that have diverse & serious effects on our health. The composition depends on the type of tobacco, length of the cigarette, and presence and effectiveness of filter tips. Usually present are (1) Carcinogens whose effects have been verified in lower animals (e.g. polycyclic hydrocarbons, betanaphthylamine, nitrosamines). (2) Cell irritants and toxins (e.g. Ammonia, formaldehyde, and oxides of nitrogen). (3) Carbon monoxide, and (4) nicotine, which has various effects on the sympathetic nervous system, blood pressure heart rate and the like.

when it comes to effects of cigarette smoking. Lung cancer closely follows causing a huge number of deaths.

### **Involuntary smoke exposure (Passive Smoking)**

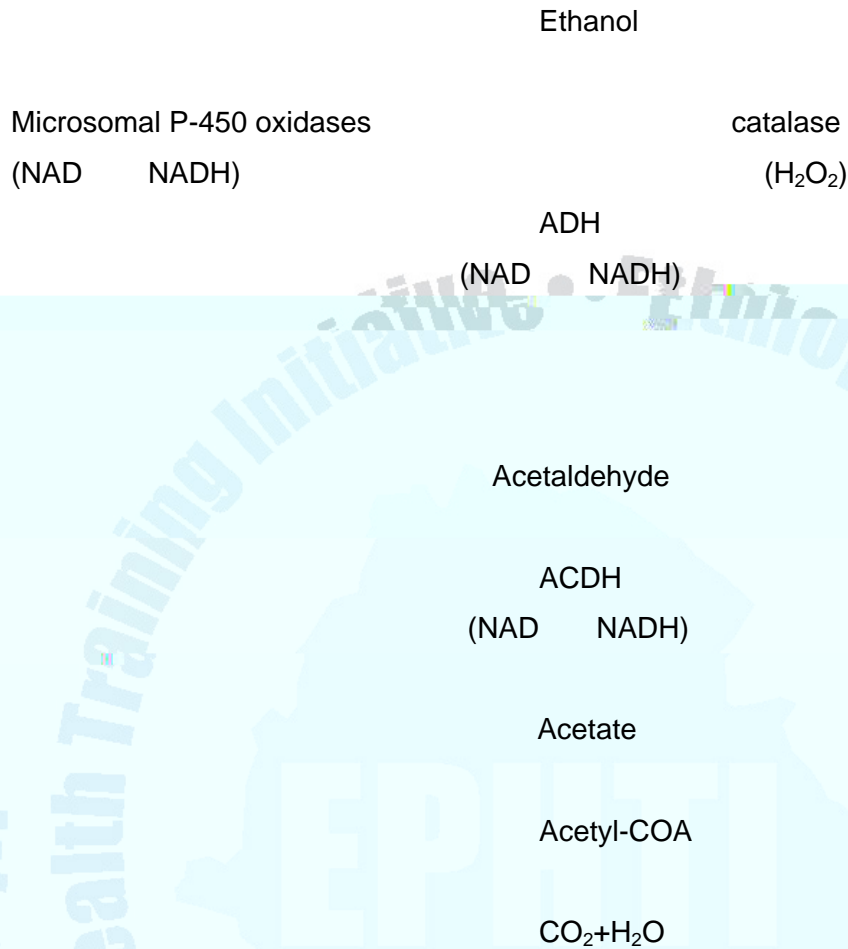
The effect of passive smoking has been identified during the last few decades. Its effect comes when non-smoking people inspire the ambient air, which is polluted by cigarette





ADRs can be divided into two categories.





**Fig 11.4 Metabolism of alcohol: the major (rate limiting) pathway is via ADH.**

### Acute Alcoholism

Acute alcoholism exerts its effects mainly on the CNS even though; the stomach and liver can also have reversible damages. Alcohol has depressant effect on the CNS. It depresses the inhibitory control centers thereby releasing excitatory pathways that accounts for the

### **Chronic alcoholism**

The increase NADH:NAD ratio, which is created by alcohol metabolism, may be responsible for the metabolic consequences of chronic alcoholism. Chronic alcoholism produces morphologic changes in almost all organs and tissues.

**Hepatic changes:** these are the most common consequences of chronic alcoholism. These



## **2- Korsakoff's syndrome**

After individuals, with Wernicke's encephalopathy, are treated with thiamine, they show a profound memory loss, which does not improve with thiamine treatment. This condition is termed as Korsakoff's syndrome. There are no specific morphologic changes other than seen in Wernicke's encephalopathy but this does not show any improvement with thiamine treatment. Hence it is believed that Korsakoff's syndrome is caused by direct neurotoxicity of ethanol compounded by a lack of thiamine.

## **3- Cerebellar ataxia**

Cerebellar degeneration, related to loss of Purkinje's cell in the cerebellar cortex, is a well-documented cerebellar change found in a minority of chronic alcoholics. These are supposed to be due to thiamine deficiency as well, rather than ethanol direct toxicity. Cortical atrophy is also a potential consequence but many studies didn't reveal any reduction in size of the cortex in chronic alcoholics.

### **Peripheral Nerves**

The peripheral nerves suffer a demyelinating polyneuropathy, occasionally mononeuropathy that is fairly common in chronic alcoholics who are malnourished. The basis is thought to be thiamine deficiency rather than ethanol toxicity.

### **Cardiovascular system**

A moderate intake of alcohol tends to increase the level of HDL and hence protects from atheroma formation and coronary heart disease. However heavy consumption, which causes liver cell injury, will decrease the level of HDL and contributes to atherosclerosis & coronary heart disease. On the other hand a direct ethanol injury to myocardium will result in cardiomyopathy, which is discussed in the chapter that deals with heart diseases.

### **Miscellaneous changes:**

Chronic alcohol intake has a tendency to produce hypertension even though in low doses alcohol (ethanol) tends to reduce blood pressure. Chronic alcoholics suffer higher incidence of acute & chronic pancreatitis and regressive changes in skeletal muscle referred as



muscles the bleeding will be evident after several hours or may remain obscured excepts the swelling & pain that is felt at the area over the contusion.

### **Gunshot wounds**





in the brain and medullary centers, when parts of the body are exposed, local changes result depending on the types of exposure to low temperature

### **Local reactions**

Injury to cells and tissues occur in two ways

1. Direct effect of low temperature on the cells
2. Indirect effects due to circulatory changes

Circulatory changes will be in two ways: slow temperature drop that will result in vasoconstriction and increased permeability leading to edematous changes as in 'trench foot', sudden sharp drop that will result in vasoconstriction and increased viscosity of the blood leading to ischemia and degenerative changes. Edematous changes in trench foot could be followed later by atrophy and fibrosis.

### **C. Injuries related to changes in atmospheric pressure**

#### **1. High altitude illness**

This is encountered in mountain climbers in atmospheres encountered at altitudes above





mainly hit hard by its deleterious effects. Central and peripheral nerves systems, as well as cardiovascular systems are also its targets.

When dealing with environmental diseases injuries caused by physical forces have to be thought about. These could be caused by mechanical forces, extreme high or low temperatures, atmospheric pressure changes or electromagnetic energy.



## VIII. Exercise

1. What could be causes of environmental diseases?
2. What is the pathogenesis of pneumoconiosis?
3. Describe the three morphologic appearances of coal workers pneumoconiosis.
4. How does progressive massive fibrosis result?
5. Mention four important adverse health impacts of smoking.
6. The pathogenesis of mineral dusts does not depend on
  - a. Size of particles
  - b. Reactivity of particles
  - c. Duration of exposure
  - d. The amount inhaled at a time
  - e. None
7. Which one of the following can't be a result of coal workers pneumoconiosis
  - a. 'Black lung'
  - b. Progressive massive fibrosis
  - c. Cor pulmonale
  - d. Lung cancer
8. Which of the following mineral is associated with mesothelioma
  - a. Beryllium
  - b. Charcoal
  - c. Asbestos
  - d. Silica
9. Which one of the following is the most common cause of mortality among cigarette smokers
  - a. Lung cancer
  - b. Coronary heart disease
  - c. COPD
  - d. Stroke

10. Which one of the following is true

- a. Alcohol is a stimulant
- b. Alcoholic fatty changes are irreversible
- c. Wernicke's encephalopathy is an indirect effect of alcoholism
- d. The liver takes all the responsibility of alcohol metabolism



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